





## Inner-city rebuilding projects will provide work for local blacks

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Building contractors applying for Government work in the inner cities are to be expected to take on local labour.

In a policy aimed particularly at tackling unemployment among blacks and Asians, Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Minister for Employment, is seeking a series of "gentlemen's agreements" with developers taking contracts in the eight task force areas set up by the Government in its inner-city initiative four months ago.

Although that does not mean legally enforced employment quotas, the clear implication is that firms unwilling to co-operate with the Government will be less likely to get the contracts.

The move, expected to be highly controversial among some Tory backbenchers opposed to positive discrimination or the American-style "contract compliance" was foreshadowed by Mr Clarke in a speech yesterday in Birmingham, where the Handsworth district is one of the chosen task force areas.

He also outlined other proposals under which housing associations and other inner-city bodies are to be encouraged to form co-operative groups of building workers to

take on contracts themselves for the improvement of the more run-down parts of their districts and the task forces will be working with private industry to set up black enterprise agencies and skill training facilities.

Mr Clarke, speaking to Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, said: "We must do a great deal more to ensure that future urban development projects in these inner-city areas produce more work opportunities and skilled training for their inhabitants."

When it was put to Mr Clarke in a BBC radio interview that his proposals sounded like positive discrimination, he said: "Positive action not positive discrimination."

While he was opposed to legal quotas he was in favour of steps that ensured that residents of deprived neighbourhoods were not excluded from employment on grounds of race.

He said in Birmingham that he hoped an agreement would soon be reached with a major contractor to employ local labour in the Handsworth task force area. He also hoped eventually to take the approach into building and refurbishment work in the other areas: in Leeds, Manchester,

Bristol, Middlesbrough, Leicester, and North Kensington and North Peckham in London.

Mr Clarke said that before work on Birmingham's new convention centre and hotels was completed the Government would put together agencies to recruit and train people from nearby inner-city districts who could eventually provide the staff required.

He called on the big retail and financial services employers in the city centres to check that their recruitment and training policies offered fair job opportunities to local people.

● A senior Conservative backbencher accused Mr Clarke of "racial discrimination against whites" in his employment proposals.

Mr Nicholas Fairbairn, MP for Perth and Kinross and a former Solicitor General for Scotland, said: "Mr Clarke should come to Scotland and the inner cities there where he will find no blacks but a lot of Scots and a lot of unemployed."

"If he wants to spend money he should spend it on the British people who have been here since the union of the Crown and he should not indulge in racial discrimination against whites."

## Vote stops rates bills for poor

By Richard Evans  
Political Correspondent

Government plans to make the poor and unemployed pay rates were left in tatters last night after a serious defeat in the House of Lords spearheaded by the Bishop of Durham.

A Labour amendment to the Social Security Bill allowing full rate rebates to housing benefit claimants was passed by 89 votes to 86.

The decision means that the Government will have to reconsider its plans to make the poorest people pay a minimum of 20 per cent of their rates bill.

The controversial rates payment plan was intended by ministers to prevent the election of high spending local authorities.

But the Bishop of Durham, the Right Rev David Jenkins, said: "It does seem that many measures in this Bill are designed to make life more cruel for people who are suffering already."

Lady Jeger, the Labour peer who moved the successful amendment, said the government plans were disgraceful.

Earlier the Government suffered a 29-vote defeat when peers agreed to give financial protection to newly-disabled people and the handicapped already claiming additional payments until the Government's new income support scheme starts in 1988.

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## Arbitration will cut costly cases

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Many would-be litigants will be able to avoid expensive court proceedings and turn instead to an arbitrator to settle their disputes, under the first full-scale arbitration scheme, launched today.

The scheme, the first to be run by barristers, will be administered by the Common Law Association, which is keen to encourage this alternative to the conventional court actions.

Arbitration at present represents only a small fraction of all litigation: London has long been a centre for commercial arbitration but outside shipping, building and commodity areas of law, it is scarcely used.

Under the new scheme, however, it is hoped that a wide range of disputes, involving individuals as well as companies, will be referred to arbitration for settlement, varying from claims arising from road traffic accidents or medical negligence, to partnership disputes, or disputes between large companies engaged in international trade.

Mr Peter Creswell, QC, chairman of the London Common Law Bar Association, said: "What we are trying to do is to provide another means of resolving disputes, which are supplementary to the courts and which in certain cases will provide far greater speed, flexibility and, hopefully, significant savings in expenses."

There was great public concern, he said, about the ex-

pense and delays of in-court proceedings: courts "are congested, and long delays are common".

Under the scheme, for a fee of £25, a skilled barrister or, where the parties wish it, a retired judge with specialist knowledge, will be appointed as the arbitrator. For example, a dispute, normally dealt with in the Chancery Division, would be dealt with by a chancery specialist.

Under a special code of procedure, he will aim to ensure they are resolved fairly, quickly and economically. He will be able to use whatever procedure he considers appropriate for resolving the dispute and can conduct the hearing wherever the parties wish him to conduct it.

The proceedings, which can be cut to the absolute minimum after maximum use of written submissions beforehand, are private; there is no right of appeal on a question of fact and appeals on law can be brought only with the agreement of all parties. In general, arbitration awards have greater finality than court judgments.

Legal aid is not yet available for arbitration, although Mr Creswell said yesterday that it was hoped in the future to be extended to it.

The London Bar Arbitration Scheme, the arbitration secretary, London Common Law Bar Association, 11 South Square, Gray's Inn, London WC1.

## GCHQ staff not allowed to repay money

Two GCHQ workers had not been allowed to pay back £1,000 they received in return for giving up their union membership, Mr Tim Renton, a Foreign Office minister, said last night.

Mr Alan Williams, an Opposition frontbench spokesman, had said in the Commons that when the employees had tried to return the compensation the GCHQ management had returned the cheques.

Mr Renton said the money was refused by GCHQ because it was an ex-gratia payment made in recognition of the withdrawal of the workers' statutory rights.

Sir Robert Armstrong, the Cabinet Secretary, told the Whitehall unions yesterday it would be "surprising" if GCHQ trade unionists who were recently disciplined for rejoining unions were disciplined again within two years.

The 13 rejoiners' penalty was loss of pay increments for two years.

The union delegation at yesterday's talks urged the Government not to persist with its "draconian" penalties against workers at the GCHQ communications centre at Cheltenham.

## Radiation reports hit lamb prices

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

Market prices for lamb have plummeted as a result of the disclosure of high radiation levels in sheep in North Wales and Cumbria, believed to be the result of fall-out from the Chernobyl nuclear power plant explosion in the Soviet Union.

The ban on the movement or slaughter of sheep in the affected areas, announced by the Ministry of Agriculture last Friday, has caused great



Brushing her auburn hair and admiring her reflection, this photograph of a young Miss Sarah Ferguson comes from the album of Miss Riva Rusi, her former Finnish nanny, and was taken in 1961.



Looking thoughtful, Miss Ferguson poses for a photograph with Miss Rusi, who described her as a "lively little girl".

## Neutrons to fight airline terrorism

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

A breakthrough in the fight against airline terrorists will be in operation at selected airports next year, technical experts of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) disclosed in Geneva yesterday.

Known as the thermal neutron activator, it will bombard suspect items, such as passenger baggage, with neutrons to set up a chemical reaction if nitrogen (used in most explosives) is present.

It is being developed in the United States under a \$10 million research grant from the Federal Aviation Administration in association with the Inter-Governmental Civil Aviation Organization based in Montreal.

It should be available for use at airports in portable form and could be a major breakthrough, Mr Rodney Wallis, IATA's head of security, said.

Tougher controls are also being imposed by govern-

ments on "ramp" staff who work behind the scenes at airports.

Catering and cleaning staff who have access to aircraft "on the ramp" are known to have been involved in smuggling weapons and explosives on to aircraft, Mr Wallis said.

Stricter enforcement of the restriction to one item of hand baggage only, and purchase of duty-free goods on arrival rather than departure at airports are other measures being considered, IATA says.

While the risk of terrorism will always be present, substantial progress has been made in the past 20 years, Mr Wallis said.

In 1970, possibly the peak year for terrorism with three violent acts involving the Palestine liberation movement alone, terrorist actions were running at 70 to 80 a year. That had been reduced to 20 to 25 a year, which was not exceeded last year in spite of media attention.

## Lesson in British TV satire for Moscow

Soviet Union film and television producers are to be treated to an unusual course in satirizing national politicians this week, courtesy of the creators of *Spitting Image* (Gavin Bell writes).

A selection of sketches from the Central Television series will be among more than 50 programmes to be shown at the Union of Cinematographers in Moscow during a five-day season of British television from all channels.

Central TV said the selection included "some Russian material". The decision whether to select scenes such as Mr Gorbachev glowing

from the after-effects of Chernobyl has been entrusted by The Great Britain-USSR Association to a British media specialist, who flew to Moscow yesterday taking the secret of his choice with him.

Leading article, page 17

## Turkey trial

William Friary, aged 18, of Drayton Road, Harlesden, London, and his brother James, aged 21, a Civil Servant, of Princess Anne Terrace, Loddon, Norfolk, were remanded in custody for seven days by Norwich magistrates yesterday, charged with demanding more than £50,000 with menaces from Mr Bernard Matthews, the Norfolk turkey producer.

## Denby charge

Philip Calaghan, aged 28, unemployed, of British Street, Bow, east London, accused of conspiracy concerning an incident involving Mr Peter Denby, a solicitor, was yesterday remanded in custody for a week. Calaghan, a waiter, was aged 25, was remanded on bail until July 21 on a similar charge at Bow Street Magistrates' Court yesterday.

## Record delay

Bad weather yesterday frustrated Mr Richard Branson's hopes of making a new attempt on the transatlantic Blue Riband speed record. Mr Branson's new £15 million boat, *Virgin Atlantic Challenger II*, was due to set off from Ambrose Light, New York, at 6am today.

## Girl murder

The body of an Army officer's daughter was found yesterday on the edge of one of Britain's biggest Army camps. Joie Harrison, aged 16, a waitress, died a quarter of a mile from her parents' home at Caterick Garrison, North Yorkshire. She had been sexually assaulted.

## Aerosol peril

Two aerosol products sold in London and the South-east are dangerous, the Department of Trade said yesterday. The "Boultan" air freshener and "Eada" fly spray produce a massive jet of flame when ignited. They should be emptied in the open air and thrown away.

## Print arrests

Seven people were arrested for public order offences during a demonstration at the News International plant at Wapping, east London, yesterday. A police spokesman said a crowd of about 600, divided into three groups, gathered outside the plant, but dispersed at midday.

## Britannia refit

The Royal Yacht *Britannia* is to have an extensive refit next year at Devonport naval dockyard, where workers last week signed a no-strike agreement to try to secure the contract.

## Ulster Assembly

## Police charge 'loyalist' sit-in

By Richard Ford

Riot police baton-charged hundreds of "loyalists" on the steps of Stormont last night as rebel Unionists defied Parliament with a sit-in in the Northern Ireland Assembly chamber.

Trouble erupted at the door to the Stormont building when loyalists attempted to force their way into the entrance hall.

There were several arrests as the police moved into the crowd. The rioting flared as a rebel group of loyalists continued a lengthy debate inside the assembly chamber six hours after it had been formally dissolved.

A 260-strong force of Royal

A total of 4,099 soldiers have been wounded in Northern Ireland between the start of the latest troubles in August 1969 and June 19, 1986, the Government disclosed yesterday.

Ulster Constabulary officers were drafted into the grounds at Stormont but the Government was playing a waiting game to avoid giving the Democratic Unionist Party the propaganda coup of being dragged off the chamber.

Mr Tom King, Northern Ireland Secretary of State, demanded that the police avoid confrontation with Unionists as a plan to remove

the politicians from the chamber at 8pm was dropped.

Led by the Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, the 22 Unionist politicians in the chamber vowed on hearing of the dissolution that they would be moved only by force.

The large number of police arrived at Stormont before 3.30pm, which marked the formal ending of yet another ill-fated initiative aimed at bringing devolution to Ulster.

A message that the Privy Council in London had agreed to dissolve the 78-member Assembly was read to Assembly members by the speaker, Mr James Kilfedder.

## Divorce ban faces challenge

Ireland's constitutional ban on divorce is being challenged in the European Court of Human Rights, two days before the continuation of the ban is to be submitted to national referendum.

The proceedings before the Strasbourg Human Rights Judiciary have forced the Irish government to propose legislation on the status of illegitimate children. The government also finds itself defending the ban before the court while pressing for constitutional change at home.

The appeal to the court was brought by a Dublin couple, Dr Roy Johnston and Janice Williams, who have lived together since 1971 and have a daughter aged eight. They claim the ban on divorce barred them from setting up a legitimate family.

Dr Johnston was married in 1952 and has three children from that marriage. He and his wife separated in 1965.

His case, backed by several thousand members of Ireland's Divorce Action group, suffered a setback last year when the European Commission of Human Rights upheld the divorce ban. The commission said the right to marry guaranteed by the European

Convention on Human Rights did not include the right to divorce and marry again. It rejected the claim of Dr Johnston, a Protestant, that Irish laws forced on him the ethics of the Roman Catholic Church.

The government argued that it would have never accepted the convention's right to marry had it even implied the right to a divorce. Dr Johnston's case, if upheld, the government contended, would give a Strasbourg court a "supra-national divorce jurisdiction" and the unacceptable power to impose on Ireland an international code of ethics.

## Abolition fails to curb the increase in costs

By Hugh Clayton

Council spending is accelerating fast in spite of government efforts to hold it down, according to an investigation of budgets prepared for the Association of County Councils.

The survey showed that abolition of the Greater London Council and other large authorities had failed to curb some spending in their areas.

Mr Jack Barton, director of finance at Cambridgeshire County Council, who compiled the survey, wrote: "Budgets have moved dramatically away from government plans, both in England and in Wales."

The level of "overspend"

the extent to which councils spent more than ministers think they ought to, had risen sharply this year. Low overspenders in the past two years were hailed by ministers as evidence of the success of rate capping and other measures against municipal extravagance.

This year, in spite of the continuation of many of the cuts, the overspend in England has risen to 5.5 per cent from 1.4 per cent two years ago.

The survey showed a mixture of trends in greater London and the English metropolitan areas, whose councils were abolished in the spring.

Mr Cullimore said he had asked for reports from every abattoir in Britain and would announce the findings at a press conference today.

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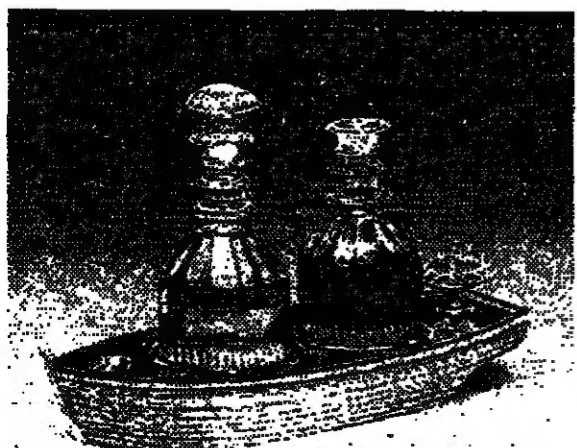
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## Angry doctors declare NHS needs 'massive infusion of funds'

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

The National Health Service is in danger of falling apart and needs a massive infusion of funds just to stand still, the British Medical Association said yesterday.

Doctors at the BMA's annual representative meeting in Scarborough listed ward closures, hospital pharmacies shut to out-patients and long waiting lists as evidence of a crisis in the service. The association said it was "in danger of falling apart".

Dr John Marks, chairman of the association's council, said the public had been "bamboozled and mesmerized by a series of governments that have told them that the NHS is the envy of the world".

Britain was now one of the lowest spenders on health care in the western world, he said, and the NHS was one of the greatest social experiments in history, was "in danger of falling apart".

It was, however, not too late to rescue a service that still represented marvellous value for money. "It needs a massive infusion of funds merely to stand still and it needs the political will to put more of the national resources, a higher percentage of the gross national product, into it."

To cries of "you are lucky" from doctors in the conference, he said that at his local

hospital, Barnet General, patients had to wait 10 weeks for an appointment with a dermatologist, 15 weeks to see an ear nose and throat specialist and 14 weeks for an orthopaedic appointment.

Shortages of medical secretaries meant GPs were being asked to limit their requests for tests, and part of his hospital still consisted of huts built before the First World War. "My patients are getting a worse deal than they got 10 years ago."

Dr Maurice Burrows, chairman of the central committee for hospital medical services, said information from 130 hospitals showed that 70 per cent had beds temporarily closed, or consultants were complaining they were having to discharge patients earlier than they felt was right in order that others could be admitted.

In some cases, he said, people due to be admitted to hospital were having to be turned away when they arrived on the wards because emergencies had taken up the available beds.

Dr Marks said the message that the NHS was in trouble was beginning to get through. The public was beginning to see that cash limits and improvement programmes

were "euphemisms for real cuts".

There was now "chaos" from the introduction of "grocery-store type" general management; patients could see they were waiting longer for hospital appointments and the effects of the policy of redistributing money from the better-off parts of the NHS to the poorer was coming through at a time of economic depression.

But doctors at the meeting clashed over whether the process should continue unchanged. Dr James Appleby, a consultant paediatrician from Kent, said the formula's use of standard death rates to help to distribute the money meant it was "a service for death, not for health".

The formula did not recognize the value of specialist centres. It inhibited research and ignored the social needs of the population. The existing formula was "a recipe for disaster and cannot be continued".

But doctors for regions which gain from the process said it must continue, and an attempt to get the association to oppose it failed. Dr Marks said the association believed that it should continue, but with higher health service spending, so that better-off regions were not cut.

## Fears for confidence over pill

Some doctors cannot be trusted to keep confidential a request from a girl aged under 16 for the contraceptive pill, Dr John Marks, chairman of council of the British Medical Association said yesterday.

The General Medical Council must yet again reconsider its advice to doctors so that doctors would have to justify any decision to tell the parents and would risk disciplinary action if they failed to do so.

"The patient must be able to assume that her confidentiality will be respected," he told the association's annual meeting in Scarborough.

The difference between the association's position and the advice of the council on the issue was now smaller than it had been, with the council saying that doctors may disclose a consultation but only in exceptional circumstances.

"There are doctors who maintain that the mere fact that the girl seeks contraceptive advice is proof that she is immature and therefore they can 'shop' her with impunity because the council says they may do so."

## Doctors urged to put end to waste

Doctors can not demand more cash for the health service with total honesty until they are sure waste has been eliminated, a doctor turned general manager said yesterday.

Mr Russell Hopkins, a consultant in oral and facial surgery at the University of Wales Hospital in Cardiff, said he found when taking over as general manager last August that the hospital was paying £20,000 a year in maintenance contracts on computers which no longer existed.

Consultants at his hospital had now agreed to a review of prescribing which would cut the bill for antibiotics by £250,000 a year through eliminating over-prescribing and unnecessarily expensive drugs.

"In my own hospital we hope to save £600,000 on a budget of £30 million on measures that will not have any adverse effects on patient care," Mr Hopkins said at the association's annual meeting.

In spite of the saving his hospital has had to close two wards during the summer

More money was needed for the health service. "But we cannot protest with total honesty until we have eliminated waste within the hospital service."

Competitive tendering is saving the National Health Service £52 million a year, Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, disclosed yesterday.

In a Commons written reply he said: "The policy of competitive tendering is producing increasing benefits for the health service. The resources that are released are available for health authorities to spend."

"In the first quarter of 1986 further savings of some £10 million a year have been identified."

"It is now estimated that a total of £52 million a year will be saved through competitive tendering exercises completed by March 31, 1986."

He disclosed that 148 contracts have been let to private contractors with estimated annual savings of £21.5 million, while 522 have been secured by in-house organizations with gains of £30.5 million a year forecast.

## Unleaded fuel 'should be freely sold by 1989'

The Government intends that there should be at least a minimal network of petrol stations offering unleaded petrol in 1987, building up to wide availability of the fuel by October 1989.

In setting out the broad framework for the introduction of unleaded petrol, Mr William Waldegrave, Minister for the Environment, said in a Commons reply yesterday that he hoped this could be achieved voluntarily by the industry, but the Government did not rule out taking measures to require the provision of unleaded petrol.

Under an EEC directive, he said, unleaded petrol should be generally available throughout the Community by October 1989. Officials are discussing with the oil companies how the tax differential forecasted in the Budget

for unleaded petrol could best be achieved in time for next year's Budget.

Mr Waldegrave said it was important to ensure the availability of suitable cars as soon as possible. The EEC Environment Council had been considering a draft directive on vehicle emissions which sets out the dates from which member states could require new cars to be capable of running on the fuel.

As soon as it had been adopted, the Government would implement the earliest dates set out in the directive:

- October 1, 1988 for new model cars over two litres;
- October 1, 1989 for all new model cars; and
- October 1, 1990 for all new registrations, unless a manufacturer could certify that extensive re-engineering would be involved.

## New diesel on horizon

A revolutionary diesel engine which operates without lubricating oil and water cooling is being developed by Ford. It has the potential to do more than 100 miles to the gallon (Clifford Webb writes).

The engine is expected to put an end to the diesel's biggest drawback for car drivers — the traditional "clatter" — and will have appreciably cleaner exhaust emissions.

It will be constructed largely from ceramic components able to cope with temperatures of 800C, compared with 115C for existing designs.

The principle of the "adiabatic" or heat retention diesel has been known for some years and is being researched extensively by all the big motor manufacturers.

Ford claims its research is at an advanced stage.

## Conflict on cockle bottling secret

A leading firm of London solicitors was accused in the High Court yesterday of negligence in failing to protect the secrets of cockle bottling.

Herbert Smith & Co is being sued by Leslie A Parsons and Sons, bottlers of cockles and mussels, of Barry Port, South Wales.

The company alleges that the solicitors failed to consider and prepare evidence needed to bring an action to protect its secret formula for bottling cockles, devised by its founder, Mr Leslie Parsons, aged 71.

It claims that, as a result of the solicitors' negligence, its secret formula was copied by the Hull-based company of Humber Pickles.

The solicitors are also alleged to have failed to advise

on an offer made by Humber Pickles in 1982 to settle the dispute between the bottlers. Herbert Smith & Co is contesting the case.

Opening the hearing, Mr David Turner-Samuels, QC, told Mr Justice Rose that the secret formula was taken to Hull by two former Parsons employees. When Mr Parsons realized the Hull company was about to start production, he called in the solicitors to launch a High Court action to protect the formula.

In spite of a number of hearings, the company ended up having to withdraw its case and pay £50,000 legal costs to Humber Pickles.

The cockle bottling case continues today.

## The young in credit card trap

Britain's young people are on a credit-card spending spree, and many have no hope of ever paying back the money.

Citizens' advice bureaux across the country are reporting a dramatic increase in the numbers of young debtors, aged 18 to 25, turning to them for help.

At Birmingham's Money Advice Centre, Mrs Nicola Thomas, a solicitor, said that a thousand young people a year were applying for help. Each had an average debt of £6,500, against £2,000 to £3,000 only two years ago.

"It's ridiculous. The majority of these young clients are unemployed. Nobody seems to check the applications, and some even get credit when they admit to having no job," she said. In-store credit cards are a favourite way of spending "on tick", she said.

At Southwark Consumer Advice Centre in south London, Miss Jackie King, the manager, said: "Today a young person can walk down the high street and easily run up £2,000 of debts in one day."

"The new method finance companies use of credit scoring" from the application form makes it much easier for a young person to obtain credit by not telling the whole truth."

In 1975, Mr Parsons won £30,000 damages over the copying of a union peeling machine he invented. That case led to a dispute over his solicitor's bill — he was overcharged by £131,000 — and the Law Society paid him £65,000 in settlement of a negligence claim.

## Employers against 'cardiac cripples'

By Thomson Prentice

Many employers refuse to give jobs to men who have survived a heart attack, considering them "cardiac cripples," according to a survey by doctors.

Trade unions are unlikely to come to the aid of such men, and barely one in three is likely to have returned to work 18 months after becoming ill.

The survey, carried out by hospital doctors in Newport, Gwent, involved 55 former patients, of whom 42 were trade union members. Only three of those received any practical help in negotiations for higher duties or redundancy pay — an "unfortunate" lack of support, the doctors say.

During the 18 months after their heart attack, 37 of the men lost their jobs. They included 13 who took early retirement, 10 who were made redundant, and four who were dismissed "as a direct result" of their initial collapse.

The average age of the men was just over 53. Most worked in light manual jobs, but only one in four of the heavy manual workers retained his job. Three of the group were in professions, and their heart conditions had "no discernible effects" on their employment.

The report says a counselling service is needed for patients recovering from such attacks, to encourage them to return to an active and profitable life. It would offer them individual advice about health problems, lifestyle and employment.

Most of the men questioned in the survey said they wanted a counselling service specifically for heart attack patients. The doctors' survey is published in the June issue of the *Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine*.



## Brief Israeli diversion

While ultra-orthodox Jews are burning and spraying posters of scantily-clad women at home, the Israeli government yesterday paraded a bevy of models in Hyde Park wearing the latest, and briefest, Israeli swimwear, to promote fashion and tourism.

The campaign against "lewd" posters, by religious extremists in Israel who regard even short sleeves as indecent, forced advertisers to withdraw certain posters.

But Mr Rafi Baeri, director of the Israeli government tourist office in London was unimpressed. "The ultra-extremists are only a very small minority," he said.

The Israeli models have all done their national service and two are still in the armed forces.

## Keating murder trial man collapses

By Michael Horsnell

The man accused of murdering Leoni Keating collapsed in Ipswich Crown Court yesterday and was carried to the cells by prison officers.

Leoni, aged three, was kidnapped from a caravan site in Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, last September, where she was on holiday with her mother.

Mr Michael Hill, QC, for the prosecution, said that Gary Hopkins, aged 28, an unemployed labourer, from Bedford, had abducted her and driven her 70 miles to Barton Mills in Suffolk at night.

There he sexually assaulted her and threw her into a relief channel of the river Lark with her hands tied, it was alleged.

Mr Hopkins denies murdering the child between September 12 and 18 last year but admits a charge of kidnapping.

While the prosecution was showing the jury photographs which the accused had taken of the murder scene, Mr Hopkins fainted. He returned to the dock after a 20-minute adjournment.

The child was on holiday with her mother, Mrs Gail Keating, aged 31, of Chiswick, west London, her sister, Nikki, now aged 14, and two other children at the Seashore caravan site, Great Yarmouth.

Mr Hopkins got into the caravan with a key to find the little girl there, Mr Hill said.

He took her away, and about five hours later his Rover car was seen parked by the water channel at Barton Mills. Three days after that the girl's body was seen floating in the water by a woman walking her dogs.

In a statement, Mrs Keating told the court that Leoni had irregular sleeping habits but was normally in bed at nine. The trial continues today.

## Guinness kidnap brothers are jailed

Two brothers were jailed yesterday for the kidnapping last April of Mrs Jennifer Guinness, a merchant banker's wife. John Cunningham, aged 35, was sentenced to 17 years and his brother Michael, aged 36, to 14 years at the Circuit Criminal Court in Dublin.

Both admitted falsely imprisoning Mrs Guinness, aged 48, in a house in the Ballsbridge district of Dublin, on April 16. Mrs Guinness had been forced from her home at Howth, Dublin, by three armed men who demanded a £2 million ransom.

Police Supt. Tom McDermott said the intruders gave a warning that she would have explosives strapped to her if she did not co-operate.

"While they accept they played a central part in this they were not the initiators", Mr Patrick MacEntee, counsel for the Cunninghams, said.

"They were approached by somebody who said he had inside knowledge and there was a lot of money to be picked up."

"To that extent they did not provoke this criminal enterprise."

Neither of the brothers had intended that the Guinness family should pay the ransom money — it was understood that would come from an insurance policy.

Mr MacEntee said the man who approached his clients had not been charged in connection with the affair.

Supt. McDermott rejected suggestions that the Cunninghams were not the originators of the plot. He said the man they claimed to have approached them was not involved in the early stages of the abduction.

Mr Justice Roe said Mrs Guinness must have had "an appalling experience" during her captivity. She was held under threat of death.

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PARLIAMENT JUNE 23 1986

Judgment anticipated • Car tax evasion

Water authorities

## Finding a judge to deal with trespass

### LAW REVIEW

The Home Secretary (Mr Douglas Hurd) is discussing with the police and other interested parties if any strengthening of the criminal law is required by extending police powers under the Public Order Bill or by some limited extension of criminal trespass, Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney General, said during Commons debates.

In addition (he said) the Lord Chancellor is considering possible improvements in civil procedure for the summary repossession of land which is available under Order 13 of the rules of the Supreme Court. Mr Robert Adley (Christchurch, C) told the Attorney General that there were some aspects of recent mass trespass which provided evidence that provocation of the police was part of the objective of those involved.

Will the Attorney General look at the law in other democratic countries, particularly our fellow EEC members (he asked), and also confirm that in his discussions with the Home Office, the question of the mass use of public roads is one aspect being examined?

Sir Michael Havers: It is principally a matter for the Home Secretary but in this country we have always been very strict about the use of public roads. It is a matter for the Home Secretary to decide whether to extend the powers of the police to deal with trespassers, provided in the Criminal Law Act 1977, had not been extended to the residential occupation of land.

Sir Michael Havers: That is a matter which the Lord Chancellor and the Home Secretary are investigating. The whole area is being looked at at the moment.

Mr Robert Key (Salisbury, C): The principal objection is that matters of public order often fall financially on small tenant farmers, and that is not acceptable.

Will the Attorney General pass on to the Lord Chancellor the problem arising under Order 113 where a county court judge or a registrar could be used, as there is no duty judge system unlike in the High Court, to get a speedier and cheaper method made available?

Sir Michael Havers said the five day period under Order 113 was also under review. It could be speeded up in emergencies, but he would ensure the Lord Chancellor was made aware of this comment.

Mr John Morris, chief Opposition spokesman on legal affairs, said the problem was ensuring a balance between rights of the owners and those who believed they had a claim of right to a particular property.

The answer was to speed up the legal process of adjudication. There should be a duty judge. In some areas of litigation one could go to a judge in chambers at night to get a temporary order during vacation.

Sir Michael Havers said speeding up was a matter being considered. He would ensure the Lord Chancellor knew about the question of reader access to a judge.

He said later that it was a matter for the Home Secretary whether temporary trespass to cross over land was made a criminal offence.

But any form of criminal trespass which might be brought in (he said) is going to have so many difficulties. For example, you might walk through the front door of your friend's house thinking he is in and he is not.

We have to cover those sorts of cases which should never be made criminal offences.

**Parliament today**  
Commons (2.30): Debates on estimates relating to long-term unemployed and Manpower Services Commission corporate plan and on the environment and Property Services Agency.  
Lords (2.30): Wages Bill, committee, first day.

Ooh... er... um...  
oh dear... well...  
yes... I mean...

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## Married women get allowance

### INVALID CARE

The Government is to legislate at once to extend the invalid care allowance to married women on the same terms as it is at present paid to married men and single people, Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, said in a Commons statement. This will multiply the cost of the scheme by four times, to more than £55 million a year.

After the European Court reaches its decision, expected shortly, on the case against the British Government for excluding married women from the allowance, Mr Fowler said, the Government will consider whether arrears should be paid to married women.

In his statement, Mr Fowler said the allowance had been introduced by the Labour Government in 1976 for men and single women who had given up their sole means of livelihood to look after a severely disabled relative, but the legislation had specifically excluded married women from benefit.

A case concerning their exclusion is now before the European Court of Justice (he said) and a debate is expected shortly in the House of Lords. The Government has therefore reviewed the exclusion and decided that, irrespective of the European Court decision, the allowance should be extended to married women on the same terms as married men and single persons.

Accordingly the Government will shortly introduce an amendment to the Social Security Bill to achieve that.

The extension of invalid care allowance to married women will mean a substantial expansion in the scope of the scheme. At present there are fewer than 11,000 beneficiaries and the cost of the allowance is £13 million. We expect up to 70,000 married women to claim invalid care allowance at an additional net cost of around £55 million in a full year.

The extension of the allowance to married women represents a very large improvement in the provision we are making for disabled people in the community. It will recognize the vital role which married women play in looking after disabled people.

Mr Michael Mescher, chief Opposition spokesman on health and social security, said the extension of the allowance to married women was "undoubtedly right and would be welcomed by women's organizations and the 70,000 married women who would benefit."

This is a complete vindication of the case taken to the European Court of Justice by Mrs Jackie Drake of Worsley, Greater Manchester (he said). It is tragic that this decision was left to the last possible moment by the Government and was not made before the case was started on December 20, 1984.

Will he clarify whether back payments will be made to all married women caring for a disabled person who has been in receipt of the allowance for more than 18 months when the European Court will almost certainly rule, it has been withheld illegally?

Now that the Government has been forced to concede that it has been wrong to withhold the allowance, will it be prepared to reach a decision which the

Labour Party made in 1983, will it face up to its responsibility to provide the other half - respite care and support services - more graciously and promptly than it conceded the first half? Mr Fowler, if Labour felt so deeply on this issue why did the last Government specifically exclude married women from legislation when they introduced it? That was in the Social Security Benefits Act 1975 and it is that exclusion by the last Labour Government which is before the European Court.

We shall have to introduce primary legislation to put that right, and that we intend to do. The payment of arrears will need to be decided in the light of the European Court judgment. We shall meet any legal obligations that we have as soon as we can. We shall need a few days to consider and make a decision on arrears as soon as possible.

Sir David Price (Eastleigh, C) said he had campaigned for years to extend the allowance to married women and he urged the Treasury to look at the total cost of benefits, to do more to help carers, and thus earn "brownie points".

Mr Michael Meadows (Leeds West, L) welcomed the change as rectifying a piece of sexist legislation introduced by the last Labour Government. Does it mean the fact that nobody who cares for a severely disabled person at home will not receive invalid care allowance? Will he look at other social security benefits which might be thought to be sex discriminatory, before others have to go to the European Court?

Mr Fowler: We shall make clear, not only in publicity but also by writing to as many people who are in receipt of attendance allowance as we can, the precise qualifications for the allowance.

It goes to the carer and is on the basis that the disabled person should be in receipt of attendance allowance. It is intended as income replacement and, broadly, will not go to people over retirement age.

Mr Frank Field (Birkenhead, Lab) believed it was fair comment to say that Mr Fowler's statement breathed new life into Dr Johnson's phrase that to be hanged is the morning concentrated the mind wonderfully.

Was this new money? In what week would married women be able to pick up this money for the first time?

Mr Fowler said this certainly was additional resources. The Government had decided to introduce primary legislation because there was no way round the specific exclusion of women contained in the last Labour Government's 1975 Act.

Claims should be made now. The Government would be issuing new leaflets and writing to everyone in receipt of care allowance.

New claims would be met once the Social Security Bill became law.

Mr Max Madden (Bradford West, Lab) said the statement was not motivated by generosity, but because the Government faced humiliating findings by the European Court.

Mr Fowler said the number who would benefit was 70,000. There would be about 50,000 net gainers.

## Alliance move against private water

### PRIVATIZATION

Customers would greatly benefit from the increased efficiency which would result from private sector management, Mr John Patten, Minister for Housing, Urban Affairs and Construction, said in a Commons debate on the privatization of water authorities. Water services pacts would, he stated, have access to raise funds on the private capital market.

Mr John Cunningham, chief Opposition spokesman on the environment, declared that in the event of the disposal of any of the assets a Labour Government would return them to public ownership.

The House was considering an Alliance motion, moved by Mr Simon Hughes (Southwark and Bermondsey, J), calling for rejection of the Government's privatization proposals on the grounds that they would undermine public accountability without improving efficiency or benefiting the consumer.

He said the debate would mark the beginning of an increasingly well-argued, vociferous and ultimately convincing campaign that would dissuade the Government from proceeding with this particular political course.

The Government had four months in which to reconsider. It introduced a Bill in November

the Alliance parties would oppose every clause and line because this was the most fundamentally damaging and risky privatization proposal.

Mr Patten moved a Government amendment inviting the House to welcome proposals which would benefit customers, strengthen safeguards for the water environment, encourage enterprise, improve the efficiency of industry, reduce the public sector and extend share ownership.

The Director-General of Water Services, who was to be appointed, would ensure that the water service pacts were well

The 50,000 or more water service workers would benefit directly from the success of their new employers - the water service pacts.

The Government would offer shares on attractive terms to all workers in the industry. There would be an initial block of 10 per cent of shares for each employee.

There would be an extra free share, sometimes even more, for every share an employee bought, up to a particular limit. When the limit was reached, a 10 per cent discount on additional purchases, up to a particular ceiling.

Dr Cunningham said Labour would support the motion.

This was just another public asset stripping procedure which the Government was trying to dress up with some philosophical justification. The situation in France was quite different. In no other country was the complete handing of water supply and sewerage management and control in private hands. That would be a unique situation.

The Labour Party was totally opposed to proposals to privatize Britain's water assets, which were the nation's most fundamental resource and which people's very existence depended.

Labour believed the water industry should be publicly owned and controlled and that the industry should be under democratic control and accountable at regional as well as national level.

Mr Ian Goss (Eastbourne, C) urged the new Government to Britain's sewers were in serious disrepair. There were problems in some areas but the condition of sewers overall was good.

By privatization, they would take away a significant proportion of ownership from the local authorities, and transfer it to the many. He welcomed that.

Mr William O'Brien (Normanton, Lab) said that if public accountability was not to remain with water authorities, it should be given to local councils.

Mr Ian Wrigglesworth (Stockton South, SDP) said there would not be a better guarantee of supply or better control of pollution bases if it was not in the hands of a private company to provide these facilities in the public interest. That was why the Government had got it wrong and would be widely opposed.

Mr Patrick Nicholls (Teignbridge, C) said it was possible that by imposing sufficient restrictions to make sure that all the environmental safeguards were taken care of and that water was supplied at a politically acceptable price the Government could find itself landed with a white elephant that nobody wanted to buy.

The motion was rejected by 253 votes to 183 - Government majority, 70, and the amendment was carried by 242 votes to 167 - Government majority, 75.

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## Family credits to be paid direct

### SOCIAL SECURITY

Following consultations with employers and women's groups, the Government has revised plans for payment of the new family credit through wage packets and decided instead to make it payable direct to recipients.

This was announced in the House of Lords by Lady Trumpton, Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, during the resumed committee stage of the Social Security Bill.

The effect of the change, she said, would be that the money would be paid direct, invariably to wives rather than husbands, in line with current arrangements for the payment of the family income supplement.

This would be more efficient and better targeted. It would go to 610,000 children of school age whereas only 205,000 family income supplement children took up free school meals. With 240,000 children receiving free or reduced school meals under discretionary schemes, this meant that an additional 65,000 children would be better off. An amendment to the Bill giving effect to this change would be introduced later.

The announcement came during discussion of an amendment proposed by Lady Ewart-Biggs (Lab) that an award of family credit should entitle the children of the family to receive free school meals.

While the new arrangements were welcome, she said, there was still a danger that the money would be used to pay pressing bills rather than for school meals. But in light of the fact that the money would be paid to the mother, she would withdraw her amendment.

Spicer added, the number of offenders prosecuted or dealt with by out of court settlements was 9 per cent up on the previous year and over 60 per cent higher than in 1982.

The issue was raised by Mr Edward Taylor (South East, C) who said the rate of evasion was now costing £100 million

Spicer: Further steps to deter evasion

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## Putting car tax on petrol would cost 38p a gallon

### EXCISE DUTY

The Government had no present plans to abolish vehicle excise duty and put the cost on the price of petrol, Mr Michael Spicer, Under Secretary of State for Transport, said during Commons questioning. Further steps to deter evasion were being taken this year.

He told Conservative MPs who urged him to do so that such a course of action would add 38 pence to a gallon of petrol, an amount that some in the House queried.

Evasion of payments of vehicle excise duty was now 4 per cent, considerably less than previously thought. As a result of recent strong activity, Mr Spicer said, the number of offenders prosecuted or dealt with by out of court settlements was 9 per cent up on the previous year and over 60 per cent higher than in 1982.

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IRA bomb trial

# Woman ready to shoot policeman at traffic check, court is told

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter

One of the women members of the IRA unit planning to bomb British resorts last year reached towards a hidden gun when an unsuspecting policeman stopped her car for a traffic offence, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

The incident was described to police later by the driver of the car, Donald Craig, aged 28, who said the woman, Ella O'Dwyer, told him afterwards that she would have started shooting if the police had got near.

On another occasion Craig said he drove two other members of the unit, Martina Anderson and Gerard McDonnell, to a car park by Wembley Stadium during last year's Cup Final on May 18. The two disappeared for several hours.

The story of Craig's involvement with the unit was described yesterday to Mr Justice Borman after Craig, a carpenter from Co. Donegal, had earlier admitted conspiring last year with the five members of the unit to cause explosions.

The court was told that Craig was recruited by the IRA after being treated in an Irish mental hospital in 1984 for alcoholism. He was a manic depressive, with wide seasonal mood swings. Yesterday his sentencing was ad-

journed until further evidence could be heard on possible commitment to a secure mental hospital unit.

At one stage Det. Supt. George Stepany, of Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist branch, told the court that Craig was "an unlikely recruit to an active service unit. At the end of the day, if you look at it he was no help at all".

Mr Roy Amlot, for the prosecution, said when Craig was arrested he had been "remarkably frank with police".

The crown accepted that it was unlikely Craig knew details of the bombing campaign and there was no evidence that he was part of the active service unit or involved in preparing the bombs.

After joining the IRA Craig was given a course in bomb-making at a camp in Co. Donegal and told he would probably have to go on an advanced course later. In Britain he was given the codename of Rory and told to buy a car and rent a flat. He kept in touch with Patrick McGee through calls to public telephones.

Mr Amlot said in May last year Craig drove his car the wrong way up a one-way street in Whitehaven, Cumbria. He was stopped and breath tested by police.

At the time the police

approached the car O'Dwyer reached towards her shoulder bag and later Craig said she told him that she would have opened fire if police had approached too close.

Eventually Craig argued with McDonnell, who was displeased with his performance, and Craig said he wanted to resign. He wrote a letter to McGee putting his case which was discovered by police.

He had been accused by the IRA of buying a car with only two doors, a flat without the right type of exits, and he used his own name to buy the car. He also put his own name on an Irish licence and car insurance.

Craig later told police he did this because he thought it was crazy to use a false address and he went against the IRA instructions because "he wanted out". After the incident in Whitehaven he fled back to London refusing to stop.

Lord Gifford, QC, for the defence, said that Craig's mental illness had been diagnosed while he was in prison awaiting trial and he became involved with the IRA while he was in a manic state. Craig had tried to extricate himself and had claimed to the police that the IRA had him "trapped in their clutches".

## Hunt for suspects continues

By Our Crime Reporter

The police hunt for leading IRA bombers and planners behind the attacks of recent years continues, in spite of the end of the Brighton and resort bombings trial. There are cases outstanding involving IRA attacks dating back to the beginning of this decade.

Police believe that Magee was part of a network of IRA operators who helped to put the Grand Hotel bomb in place. They want to talk to Patrick Mearns, sought by Lancashire police on a separate charge, although there is no warrant by Sussex police for his arrest.

Mr Murray, aged 42, is on bail in Dublin on a shooting

charge. He is said to be a friend of Magee. Last week he failed to answer bail in Dublin and Irish police are now hunting him.

After a number of London bombings, beginning in 1981, in which two people died outside Chelsea Barracks and a police explosives expert was killed in Oxford Street, Scotland Yard has a number of suspects.

Evelyn Glenholmes, aged 29, is wanted on nine counts which cover the 1981 campaign. Police would also like to question her about IRA operations that have taken place in Britain since that series of attacks. Earlier this year an

attempt to extradite her from the Irish Republic collapsed.

Glenholmes has been linked to an arms dump found in the Home Counties, which also disclosed possible evidence on John Downey, aged 33, wanted for his alleged part in the bombings in Hyde Park and Regent's Park in 1982 in which eight people were killed and 53 injured. Like Glenholmes, Downey has been living in the Irish Republic.

Also wanted by the police is Owen Coogan, aged 36, who has not been publicly linked by the Yard to specific attacks, but is considered to be the main planner behind many attacks in Britain.

## 35 years' jail for 'inhuman' bomber

Continued from page 1  
more 20 years to life imprisonment for explosive offences.

Magee left the dock to a cry of "Our day will come" in Gaelic.

To McDonnell, who is aged 35, the judge said he was not only at the centre of the resort campaign, but proud of it.

"How anyone can be proud is very difficult to understand. You said a warning would be given. Having regard to your reliability we are entitled to doubt that."

Peter Sherry, aged 30, was told that although he had arrived late on the scene in Glasgow where Magee and the unit were arrested, there was no doubt he was a very important element in the conspiracy. He had offered no help when police were searching for possible bombs last year and he had shown "a fanatical loyalty" in court.

The judge told Martina Anderson, aged 24, that "it is difficult to envisage a young woman of intelligence being so stripped of humanity that she could sink to taking part in such a plot".

"You were at the centre. I have seen you in the witness box...and I have no doubt you are a hard, cynical young woman." She would remain in prison until some sort of humanity crept back.

When Ella O'Dwyer, aged 27, came into court she sat down and was dragged to her feet smiling. The judge told her: "You have sunk to the depths of inhumanity and you are proud of it." She had enjoyed every minute of being in the witness box and the trial.

Earlier the judge sentenced Shaun McShane, aged 33, who pleaded guilty to aiding and abetting the unit, to eight years in prison. McShane, an Irishman living in Glasgow, arranged for flats for the unit and took a message to Ireland. He was told that those who helped the IRA acted against the community. If the IRA knew they could find safe houses they were bound to be encouraged.

Sentencing on Donal Craig, aged 28, who admitted being part of the bombing conspiracy, was adjourned to await medical reports.



Warrant Officer Bill Brazier, who is leading 10 Royal Marines in a 1,800-mile relay run down through Norway in aid of the Red Cross, cradling the team mascot, a reindeer calf called Henry Dumant, after the Red Cross founder (Photograph: John Voos).

## Arts curbs 'worst for local theatres'

By Gavin Bell, Arts Correspondent

A pressure group for the arts has joined the fray for more government funds with a claim that regional and touring theatre companies have been affected by a sharp reduction in Arts Council support during the past five years.

A survey by the National Campaign for the Arts published today says that grants to repertory companies, such as the Mercury Theatre, Colchester, and the Theatre Royal, Stratford East, have been cut by 11 per cent in real terms since 1980, while grants to leading touring companies

such as Foco Novo and Hull Truck has dropped by more than a quarter during the same period.

The statistics have been submitted to Sir Kenneth Cork, vice-chairman of the Arts Council, who is heading an inquiry into the present system for subsidizing the theatre which is due to report its findings to the Government in September.

Mr Simon Crine, NCA director, estimates that the overall grant to the theatre has fallen by £1.5 million since 1979-80, and has urged Sir Kenneth to make good the shortfall.

## PC cleared of cruelty

A policeman who tried to kill a dog suffering from advanced distemper after attempts to contact animal agencies had failed was cleared yesterday of cruelty beating the year-old mongrel.

The decision, at Glasgow Sheriff Court, ended a seven-month ordeal for PC Fraser Ross, aged 27, who was sus-

pended after the incident, at Blackhill police station, Glasgow, last November.

The court was told earlier that the dog was foaming at the mouth and trying to bite everyone.

Police tried eight times to call in help from the Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

## Coroner rejects evidence

Two Lambeth home helps told an inquest yesterday that they had seen an elderly man in their care alive last January and February, when evidence before the coroner indicated that the man probably died before Christmas.

Sir Montague Levine, the Southwark coroner, said he did not accept the evidence of Mrs Evelyn Meredith and Mrs Daisy Gordon, who were both supposed to look after Mr George Owens, aged 79. Mr Owens was found dead by the police at his home in Effra Parade, Brixton, on May 15. Piles of mail on the hall mat included unopened Christmas cards.

Mrs Meredith told the court she visited him on January 13 this year. She said she called again on February 17 and got no reply. Mr Owens' regular home help, Mrs Gordon, told the court she saw him alive on February 3.

Sir Montague, recording an open verdict, said: "I find it hard to accept that George Owens was seen and spoken to in January and February. I find it impossible to accept."

## Mother strangled girl and her friend

A mother took her daughter and a playmate to a park, then strangled both children, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Mrs Mirella Beechcock pretended to be distraught when she told millions of television viewers that her daughter Tina, aged seven, had been abducted.

Mrs Beechcock, aged 26, finally confessed to both killings to her estranged husband and the police. She said she strangled the girls because she feared going to prison for a shoplifting offence.

Mr Allen Green, for the prosecution, told the jury there was no dispute that Mrs Beechcock killed the children. What had to be decided was her state of mind at the time. Mrs Beechcock denies murdering the girls on September 18 last year.

Mr Green told a jury of seven men and five women that the children attended Albion primary school, Rotherhithe, and were close friends. Tina's father, Mr Kevin Beechcock, aged 31, left the family's flat in Rotherhithe in 1983 and moved to a flat in east London, although he regularly visited his wife and daughter.

On the day of the killings, Mr Green said, Mrs Beechcock collected her daughter from school and they met Stacey. She took the girls to Southwark Park and sent Tina off to play then strangled Stacey with a length of cable from a vacuum cleaner and hid the body under a pile of leaves.

Mr Green said Mrs Beechcock took Tina back to their flat, strangled her and hid the body in a red shopping trolley. Mrs Beechcock pretended that the girls had been abducted and neighbours and police searched the area.

She showed Stacey's mother, Mrs Linda Kavanagh, one of Stacey's red shoes and said she had found it. Mrs Kavanagh noticed particularly that Mrs Beechcock "didn't appear to be upset".

That night, Mr Green said, police found Stacey's body. Three days later they discovered Tina's body in Mrs Beechcock's flat after she had confessed to her husband. The trial continues today.

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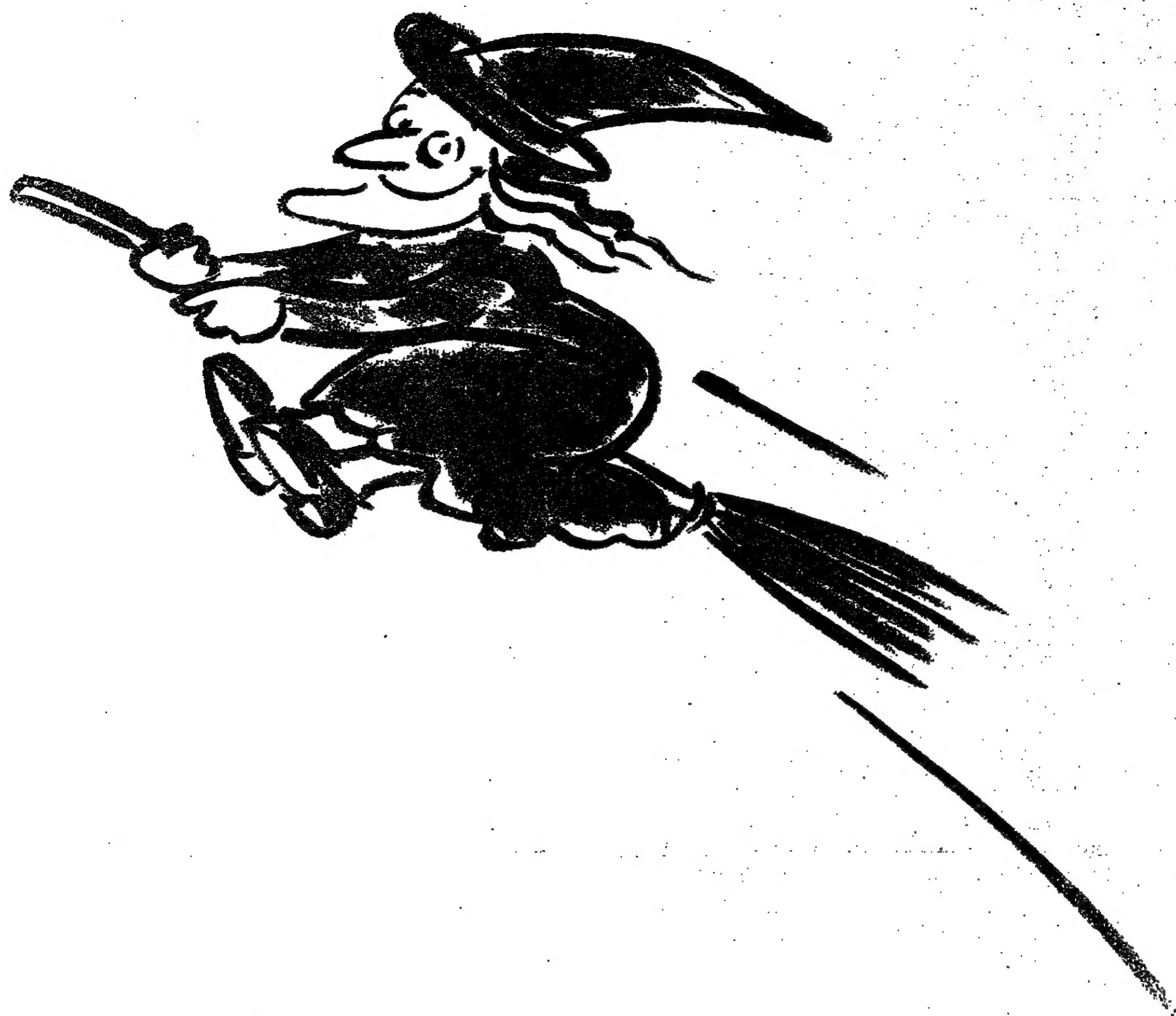
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## WHAT ARE THE SAFEST CARS IN BRITAIN, ACCORDING TO THIS IMPARTIAL OBSERVER?

A Volvo. (The 360 GLE.) A Volvo. (The 240 GLE Estate.) Another Volvo. (The 740 GLE.) And the Mercedes 190E. (Well done!) These were the four top-rated cars in a recent report on safety carried out by a certain well-respected consumer association. We're not allowed to name them, but it's wizard news all the same.

Botha on  
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APR 24 1986



## The South Africa crisis

## Botha orders out second foreign journalist without giving reason

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

South Africa last night ordered the Johannesburg correspondent of *Newswatch*, Mr Richard Manning, to leave the country by midnight on Thursday. No reason was given.

The action, said a letter from Mr Stoffel Botha, Minister of Home Affairs, was being taken under the Admission of Persons to the Republic Regulation Act of 1972. Mr Manning was given until 10 am on Thursday to make representations to Mr Botha "as to why this order should not be carried out".

If there is no reprieve, he will be the second foreign journalist expelled since the emergency was declared on June 12. A CBS News cameraman, Mr Wim de Vos, was thrown out on June 17.

The June 23 issue of *Newswatch*, which had a cover report entitled "South Africa's civil war", was withheld from sale after its distributor was

told the magazine would infringe emergency restrictions.

Meanwhile, a treason trial in Pietermaritzburg ended yesterday with the withdrawal of the state's case against the four remaining accused, all black trade union leaders.

After Mr Justice John Milne acquitted the accused of all charges, friends and relatives in the public gallery raised clenched fists in the black power salute and there was further jubilation outside the court.

Mr Thezamele Gqweta, president of the South African Allied Workers' Union, and other senior members, Mr Sisa Njikelana, Mr Sam Kikine and Mr Isaac Ngcobo, had been accused of plotting with the outlawed African National Congress to overthrow the Government.

The state's inability to make charges of treason stick explains in part the wide powers of arrest and detention given

to the police under the state of emergency since June 12.

These enable the police to hold detainees indefinitely without trial and without having to give any reasons to a court. Many trade unionists are understood to be among those arrested since the emergency went into force.

In another development, it was disclosed yesterday that Brigadier Andrew Molope, the Bophuthatswana police officer shot dead on Saturday, was almost certainly the victim of a revenge killing.

He commanded a police unit which in March shot dead 11 people attending what was officially said to have been an illegal gathering in Winter-veid, in Bophuthatswana, one of the four "independent" tribal homelands.

In Pretoria, the Government's Bureau for Information reported yesterday that two people had died in "black-on-black violence" in the 24 hours to 6 am yesterday, bringing to 57 the total number of people officially reported to have died in "unrest-related incidents" since the emergency was declared.

The bureau is the only official source of news about unrest, and the only legal source about involvement of the Army and police.

## Priest defies directive

Cape Town (Reuters) - Pretoria yesterday ordered the eviction of hundreds of homeless black squatters taking refuge in churches in white residential areas, but at least one priest vowed to defy the directive.

The Rev Geoff Quinlan,

Healey off for talks in Pretoria

By Richard Evans  
Political Correspondent

Mr Denis Healey, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, left London for South Africa last night determined to visit Mr Nelson Mandela, leader of the African National Congress (ANC), who has spent the last 22 years in prison.

His application to see Mr Mandela is still being considered by the South African Minister of Justice.

Mr Healey welcomed the British Government's decision to have talks this week with Mr Oliver Tambo, the ANC's acting president, but accused Mrs Thatcher of being "dragged screaming" into sanctions and a shift of policy.

Mr Healey, accompanied by Mr Donald Anderson, Labour's African affairs spokesman, had an hour-long meeting with Mr Tambo yesterday and spoke to Mr Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy, on his return from South Africa.

## South Africa is in 'evil grip' of police

By Nicholas Beeston

Mr Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy, said yesterday that South Africa was in the "evil grip" of the security forces, and warned Pretoria of a violent backlash if its "stranglehold" on the country was not relaxed.

Speaking on his return from South Africa in the first unlicensed eye-witness account of the situation since the declaration of a state of emergency, Mr Waite called President Botha's regime "a massive failure of statesmanship".

Before reporting back to the Archbishop of Canterbury, Mr Waite described his six-day visit to Johannesburg, Pretoria and Cape Town where, he said, the arrests had been "on an unprecedented scale".

He produced a letter written on the back of a small piece of paper by a young black detainee which was smuggled out of prison. The letter spoke of a

severe lack of "basic human rights" in jail.

He expressed particular bitterness at the arrest of church leaders whose families, he said, had been arrested.

He recounted the case of a whole congregation which was arrested in a Cape Town church last week. The two daughters, one of them pregnant, of a leading member of the South African Council of Churches had also been arrested.

He called his visit a "difficult and distressing task" and he praised church groups for their patience and "their moderating influence".

But he poured scorn on the South African Government and the security forces, and quoted one policeman who said: "in the present situation my word is law".

Mr Waite accused the police of fanning "the flames of discontent" at the Crossroads squatter camp in Cape Town, describing them as "riding on the back of the unrest".

## Cabinet to consider aid plan

Continued from page 1

Secretary, Lord Whitelaw, the deputy Prime Minister, Mr Norman Tebbit, the Conservative chairman, and Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, it became clear that the Government still favours diplomatic rather than economic measures to achieve its stated aim of ending apartheid and bringing down the level of violence without creating an economic wasteland.

It is portraying the offer of talks with Mr Tambo in that light, emphasising that Mrs Chalker will be calling on the ANC to renounce violence. Mrs Thatcher is also prepared to agree to Sir Geoffrey leading a last ditch peace mission

Timetable towards action on South Africa:

June 24 - Cabinet's overseas and defence policy committee meets.

June 25 - Cabinet meets.

June 26/27 - European Council meets in The Hague.

August 2/3 - Heads of seven Commonwealth governments who sponsored Eminent Persons' Group meet in London.

to Pretoria to encourage Mr Botha to end apartheid.

But it was also seemed that she is now ready, while still arguing against the efficacy of economic measures, to support a limited package at The Hague.

A ban on all fruit and vegetable imports from South Africa appeared likely.

Although Mrs Thatcher opposes such a ban because she fears it will damage rural black South Africans, it appeared that she would concede it if the Community ministers wanted it.

The Prime Minister is also unlikely to stand in the way of a ban on new investment in South Africa.

In a further development today, the Commons Foreign Affairs Committee is to take evidence from the ANC after its decision to inquire into the effective measures required to help achieve a peaceful solution in South Africa.

## Political play banned by Cape police

Cape Town (Reuters) - South African police used their emergency powers last night to ban a play which lampoons members of the Government, saying it was a political meeting.

The Cape Town area's police chief, Brigadier Chris Swart, issuing the latest in a series of emergency orders, prohibited the play *Senzenina* (What Have We Done?), which was to have been staged in the city last night, on the grounds that it was a gathering organized by the anti-apartheid United Democratic Front.

It has been performed many times before in South Africa.

## Lisbon battle on labour laws

## Cabinet calls confidence vote

From Martha de la Cal, Lisbon

The Portuguese Government has called for a vote of confidence in Parliament following the defeat last Friday of its proposal to be allowed to change the labour laws.

The minority Social Democrat Government of Senhor Anibal Cavaco Silva, the Prime Minister, wants to modify the labour laws to permit lay-offs and short-term contracts. Such measures would be unconstitutional under present law, but they are part of the Government's programme to increase investment.

Parliament has three days to discuss the confidence motion before voting. If the government loses, it will automatically be forced to resign.

The decision has defused a crisis which was threatening to

This conflict between the Government and Parliament is only the latest of a series since Senator Cavaco Silva took office seven months ago.

He has been stalemated in his attempt to sell off state-owned newspaper companies and was forced to alter his budget to get it approved. He can expect opposition to his proposed new internal security law.

His party has only 88 seats in Parliament, while the opposition Socialists have 57, the Communists 38 and former President Eanes's Democratic Renewal Party (PRD) 45.

The Government can usually count on the 22 votes of the Christian Democrats and sometimes part of the PRD

vote, but they are not enough for a majority.

The Prime Minister and other Social Democrat leaders believe they could obtain a parliamentary majority if elections were held now. Opinion polls show the Prime Minister with a high popularity rating. He could be expected to campaign on the promise that his party wants to bring prosperity and change to Portugal but has been prevented by the other parties in Parliament.

But President Soares is known to oppose the idea of new elections because of their high cost to the country.

If necessary, he would prefer to find another solution within Parliament, perhaps a coalition among other parties.

## President defuses Sri Lanka crisis

From Vijitha Yapa, Colombo

President Jayewardene of Sri Lanka has agreed to see a delegation from Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike's Sri Lanka Freedom Party tomorrow before he meets other recognized political parties to explain his proposals for devolution.

The decision has defused a crisis which was threatening to

make the meeting of the parties meaningless, since the Sri Lanka Freedom Party is the main opposition party.

Mrs Bandaranaike is expected to lead the delegation to see the President. It will be their first official meeting since her civic rights were restored on January 1.

The proposals for devolution have been approved by the Cabinet, and have been

sent to Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister. Mr Lalith Athulathmudali, the National Security Minister, said they would give Sri Lanka's nine provinces similar powers to those enjoyed by Indian states.

The moderate Tamil United Liberation Front, whose leaders are in Madras, were invited to tomorrow's meeting but have declined.



Mourners attending a "restricted" funeral yesterday for a man killed by vigilantes in Cape Town's Nyanga township.

## UK shirks duty, says ANC chief

By Paul Valley

A call for comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against South Africa was made yesterday by Mr Oliver Tambo, president of the African National Congress (ANC).

He accused the British Government of shirking its responsibility to the rest of the Commonwealth by its lack of action over the report of the Eminent Persons' Group.

Mr Tambo demanded the isolation of the Botha regime by complete financial and trade sanctions, an oil embargo, the ending of air and sea links and the closure of loopholes in the arms embargo.

Sanctions had to be total and immediate, he told the Royal Commonwealth Society in London.

Anything other than complete economic isolation would be "a sign to Botha that the British Government is not prepared to act in any meaningful way".

Mr Tambo asked Commonwealth leaders and the Queen to intervene "on our side, on the side of humanity". Under a black government South Africa, he was sure, would rejoin the Commonwealth.

Last night the Secretary General of the Commonwealth, Mr Sonny Ramphal, was due to see the Queen. The subject of sanctions was thought to be high on the agenda.

On the argument that sanctions would hit the blacks in South Africa, Mr Tambo said his people already bore the burden of daily shootings, beatings against detainees and a vicious campaign of terror.

## Israeli nurses strike over pay

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

All but a few of Israel's 11,000 hospital nurses walked out yesterday morning, vowing to stay on strike until they had won the right to their own trade union, along with better pay and conditions.

A small number stayed to help run casualty wards, maternity and intensive-care units, while operating theatres were staffed only at a level able to cope with emergencies.

Army nurses were brought in to run wards, relatives of the sick were allowed to give some limited bedside care and many

non-critical patients were sent home.

Yesterday evening a meeting between Mr Mordechai Gur, the Health Minister, and representatives of the Histadrut labour federation, which has a nurses' section, was called to try to find a way of ending the strike.

But the nurses' representatives refused to attend, even though Mr Gur has said he has every sympathy with their case.

The dispute has been running on for six months. The nurses say poor salaries mean

low recruitment and a high drop-out rate, with the result that health care in hospitals has dropped to dangerously low levels.

It is a case they have found almost impossible to argue because their main employer is the Histadrut itself, which runs the health insurance scheme that looks after more than 75 per cent of all the hospitals in the country.

The nurses have been offered a 12 per cent pay rise in an arbitration award, but have turned it down.

## Sicilian election sends message of stability

From Peter Nichols, Rome

The Sicilian regional elections sent a message of stability at the weekend to the Government in Rome, rather than rocking the political boat, as had been expected.

Big changes would have affected the five-party coalition on which the national Government is based.

The Christian Democrats will have two seats fewer in the new regional assembly, but remain by far the largest single party.

During the election campaign there was a quarrel

between Signor Bettino Craxi, the Socialist Prime Minister, and Signor Ciriaco De Mita, the Christian Democrat national secretary.

They are allies in the national Government, but their attacks on each other were so strong that commentators believed the alliance could not have survived a decisive vote.

The final results were: Christian Democrats, 36 seats (38 last time); Communists, 19 (20); Socialists, 14 (14); Italian Social Movement, 8 (6); Republicans, 5 (5); Social Democrats, 4 (3); Liberals, 3 (3); Others, 1 (1).

## Arafat appeal for UN aid at Beirut camps

Beirut - Mr Yassir Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organization leader, has appealed for UN troops to be deployed around refugee camps in Beirut, where fighting continues unabated despite a 10-day-old ceasefire (Juan Carlos Gumucio writes).

Newspapers in Beirut said yesterday that Mr Arafat made the call in a telegram to the leaders of the Gulf Co-operation Council.

Two more died in yesterday's clashes between Palestinians and Shia Muslim militiamen.

## Opposition to boycott parliament in Dhaka

Dhaka - Bangladesh's largest opposition party, the Awami League, has decided to boycott Parliament when it meets next month for its inaugural session, threatening nationwide civil agitation against martial law (Ahmed Fazi writes).

Sheikh Hasina Wazed, chief of the Awami League, which won 73 of the 300 seats in the May elections, said yesterday that she and other league members would stay out of the House if Army rule remained and the constitution was not fully restored.

## Bus tragedy

Lisbon - Eleven people died and 13 were badly injured on Sunday evening when an express bus carrying 40 passengers between the northern city of Braga and Lisbon skidded and crashed near Santa Maria de Lamas (Martha de la Cal writes).

## Plant collapse

Talaja, India (Reuters) - Seventeen people were feared dead in a textile factory collapse here as rescuers struggled to reach six people still trapped.

## TV agreement

Luxembourg (AP) - The European Community has adopted common standards for direct satellite television broadcasting, which is expected to start in the EEC early in 1987.

## Kiev danger

Moscow (AFP) - Radioactive food is still being sold in Kiev markets, two months after the Chernobyl accident, *L'express* reported.

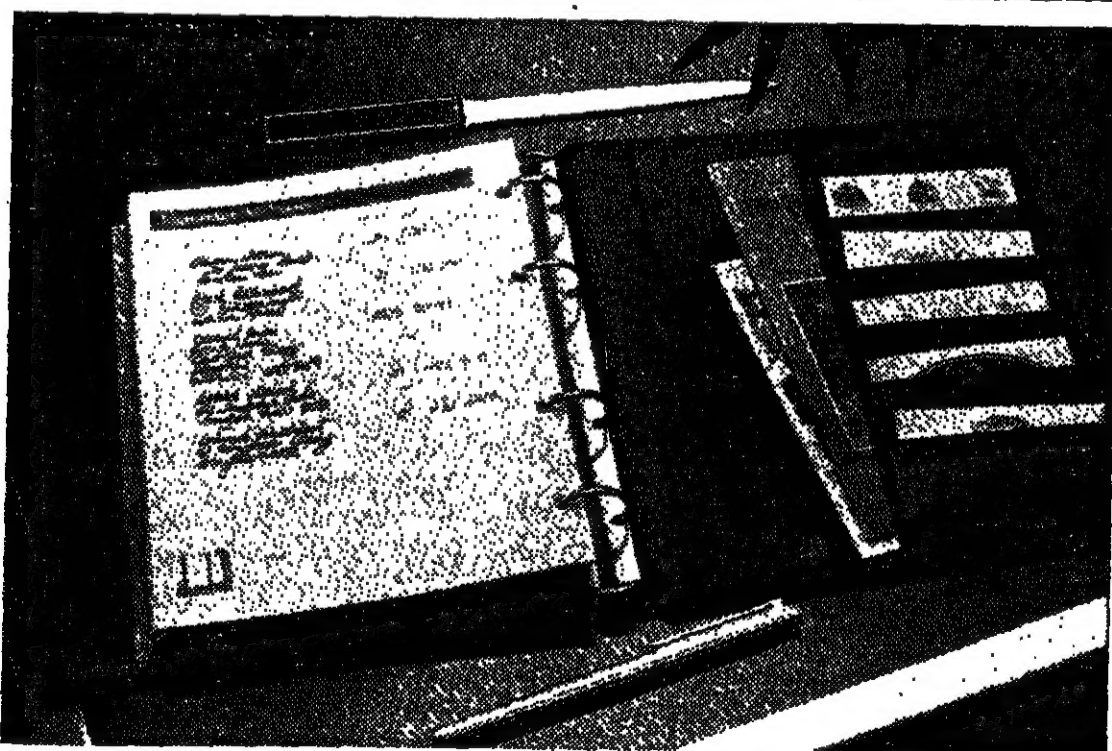
## Tunis sacking

Tunis (Reuters) - President Habib Bourguiba yesterday continued a big government shake-up by dismissing the wife of his Prime Minister, Mrs Fethia Mzali, as Minister for Family and Women's Affairs, the TAP news agency said.

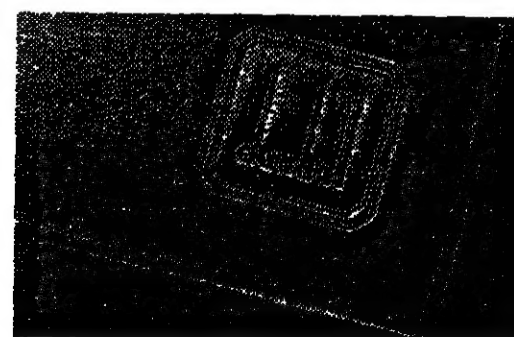
## Navy boost

Peking (Reuters) - China is making a new generation of guided-missile destroyers and plans to step up its study of electronic equipment in the next five years to boost its Navy's strike capability, the weekly *Peking Review* said.

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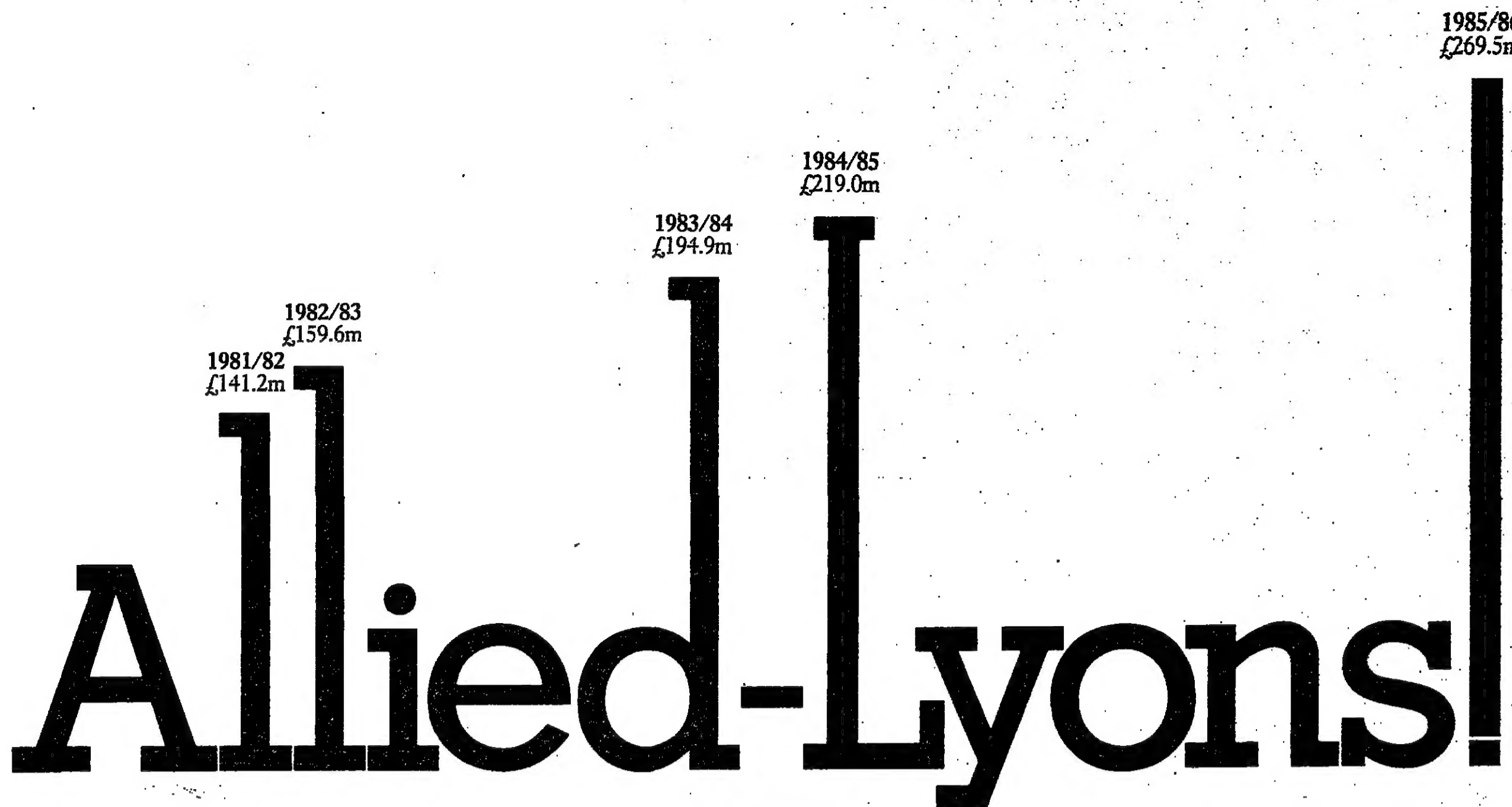
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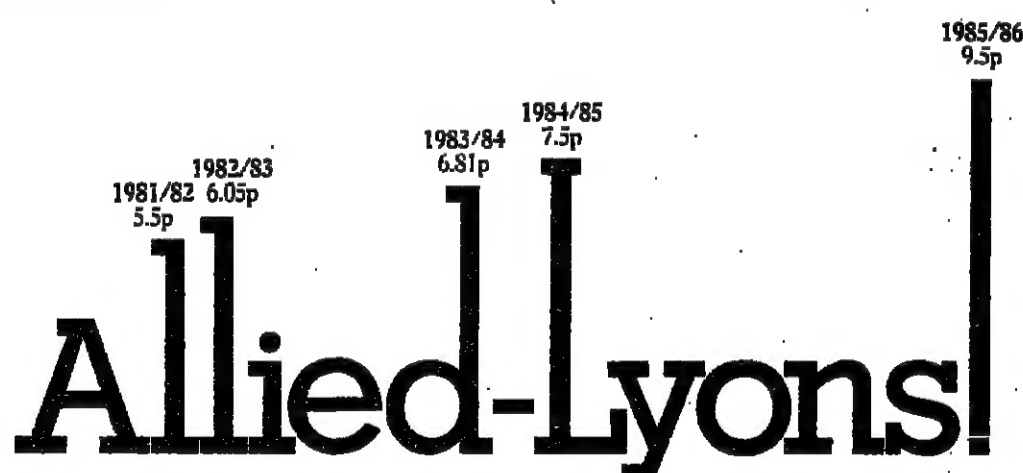


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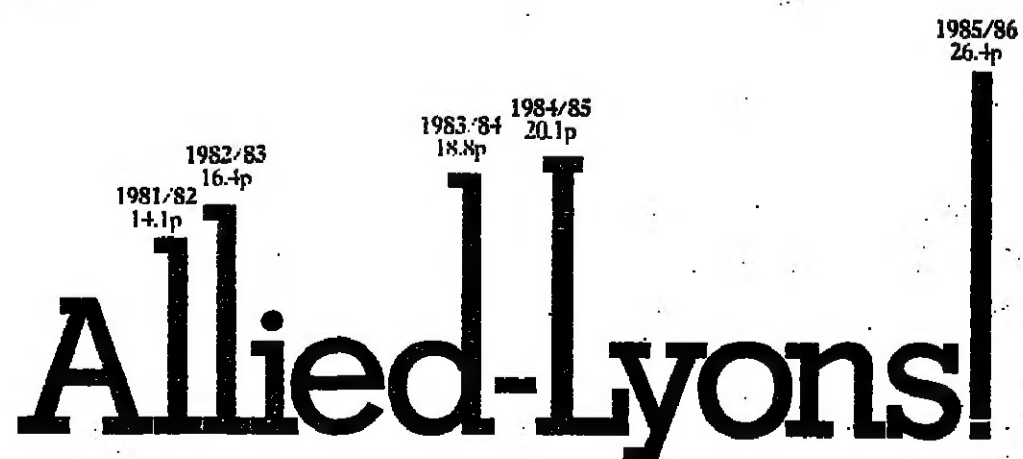
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# Socialist majority offers Spain stability

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

The absolute majority of seats won by the Socialist Party, for the second time running in Sunday's general election gives Spain a reasonable assurance of four years of stability.

But the elections' essentially cautious verdict, everywhere outside the Basque country, brought no nearer the creation of a viable alternative to Señor Felipe González, still aged only 44, who is soon to be asked by King Juan Carlos to form his third Socialist Government.

"We have Felipe González, just about as charismatic as Maradona, getting his way with the Spanish people over an absolute majority in Parliament just after winning the referendum on Nato. The right here has a very long way still to go to make itself sufficiently attractive," a Spanish businessman said yesterday.

Señor González faces no problem from the 184 Socialist members in Parliament, well drilled and still eight more than required for a majority in the 350-seat lower house.

They tower over the 105 MPs led by Señor Manuel Fraga, whose right-wing Popular Alliance evidently failed singularly in the elections' eyes to exploit the advantages of being the chief opposition to the Socialists, and even lost one seat compared with October 1982. But Señor Fraga, characteristically, seized upon voters' loyalty to declare that there was less justification than ever for his thinking of stepping down. He is 63.

The Socialist victory showed a majority of voters responding to Señor González's claims of providing firm and stable government in the na-

tional interest, the key idea of his election campaign.

Señor Alfonso Guerra, the Socialist deputy leader, observed after victory that "no precedent exists in Europe for a party which has governed alone with an absolute majority to repeat a success like this".

But a protest did surface, with the Socialists losing 18 MPs compared to 1982, an increase of almost 10 per cent in abstentions and the comeback of Señor Adolfo Suárez who, in a personal triumph, won 19 seats in the new Parliament.

The bid by Spain's badly-fractured Communist Party, which opened itself up to form the so-called United Left after the Nato referendum, to exploit Socialist supporters' disillusionment only partially came off. This socialist left grouping obtained seven seats, three up on last time.

Señor Suárez now claims that he will be back in the Prime Minister's office by 1990, after trouncing the Socialists at the head of a progressive centre party.

But his new MPs look a motley group, and apart from the five elected in Madrid the rest come from backward parts of Spain, such as the Canaries and Castile.

Señor Suárez has acknowledged a certain kinship between his party and another, vaguely centrist protest force, the Democratic Renewal Party of former President Eanes of Portugal. The problems that party now faces are not a good omen for Señor Suárez.

But, although a poor parliamentarian, Señor Suárez has promised that he will be constantly in Parliament, making the Socialist Government aware of acute social



Señor González raising his arms in victory at a Madrid hotel after the Socialist Party won the general elections.

issues, primarily unemployment.

In Andalusia, where there were elections as well for the regional Parliament, the Socialists also retained an absolute majority, getting 60 seats out of the 109.

But the advance of the right, which won 11 extra seats, served to underline Señor Fraga's failure in Madrid. Similarly, the advance from

eight to 19 seats by a forceful local Communist leader contrasted with the performance of his party at national level.

In the Basque country the advance of the extreme left-wing nationalist Herri Batasuna (People's Unity) coalition, the political wing of Eta, which took five seats, sent shock waves through both Madrid and Vitoria. It won only one fewer than the

Basque Nationalist Party, which governs the autonomous region.

Herri Batasuna announced immediately that it would continue its policy of boycotting the Madrid Parliament.

In Spain's other historic autonomous region, Catalonia, the Socialists, while they remain the biggest party, suffered losses in the face of

another advance by nationalist forces.

The Reformist Party's failure to win any seats in the rest of Spain, except one in Galicia, gets close to the heart of Spain's problem of finding a viable future alternative.

In the more developed parts of Spain, such as Catalonia and the Basque country, it is the nationalist parties which are strong.

## Paris murder wave claims 11th victim

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The murder in Paris at the weekend of Mme Marthe Hervé, aged 79, in her luxury flat in the 8th arrondissement, has brought to 11 the number of old women living alone in the capital who have been killed in their homes since the beginning of the year.

Four murders have been committed over the past 10 days. In each case, the only motive appears to have been petty theft.

Since 1984, when the wave of killings began, a total of 29 old women have been murdered. Police believe that the same man, probably a drug addict, is responsible for at least a third of the murders, in which certain common characteristics have been noticed.

In each case, telephone wires have been pulled out and the flat ransacked, but usually only cash taken.

Most of the women have

been in their seventies or eighties. Often they have been found with their hands and legs bound after being suffocated, strangled, stabbed or beaten to death.

All were living on their own, and it has sometimes been days before the death was discovered.

Paris is particularly prone to this kind of attack, having more than its share of lonely old people.

There are nearly 250,000 women over the age of 65 living in the city, representing 11 per cent of the 2.2 million population. One out of two people lives alone.

Although there are no precise figures on how many old women live on their own, a recent study showed that 79 per cent of the 41,000 women aged 80 to 84 in the capital lived alone.

## International grouping to study Peru deaths

Lima (AFP) — The Socialist International meeting here has set up a commission to study last week's crushing by the Peruvian military of prison riots, as more guerrilla attacks were reported in Lima.

One guerrilla was killed and three wounded in a police chase after they threw a bomb into a Lima restaurant on

Sunday, the police said.

In a separate incident on Sunday, two members of the European Parliament, a Frenchman and a Belgian woman, with a Canadian woman who were all attending the Socialist International conference, were among customers in a Lima restaurant forced to leave by guerrillas.

### SPANISH GENERAL ELECTION

Official results with 99.9 per cent of the votes counted (October '82 figures in brackets):

	Seats	% vote
Socialists	184 (202)	44 (48)
Popular Coalition	105 (106)	26 (25)
Democratic and Social Centre	19 (2)	4 (2)
Convergence (of Catalonia)	18 (12)	4 (3)
United Left	7 (4)	1 (1)
Basque Nationalist Party	6 (8)	1.5 (1.9)
Herri Batasuna	5 (2)	1.1 (0.9)
Basque Left	2 (1)	0.5 (0.4)

The official turnout was given as 70.7 per cent, compared with 73.9 in 1982. One seat each was won by regional parties in Aragón, Canaries, Galicia and Valencia.

## Warsaw turns heat on Solidarity leaders

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

The Polish authorities, determined to hunt down the Solidarity underground, have now turned their attention to the banned union's above-ground representatives, and have called in for interrogation Mr Lech Walesa, the Nobel Peace Prize winner, his confessor, Father Henryk Jankowski, and his main adviser, Dr Bronisław Geremek.

At the same time, the official media are trying to enmesh the Solidarity movement with Western intelligence agencies.

Polish television broadcast an interview with a Warsaw physiotherapist and masseur, Mr Bogdan Charyton, who is accused of spying for the United States since the Solidarity era.

Mr Charyton was shown identifying a US diplomat, Mr Stephen Mull, as his contact — "I have met him twice" — and the PAP news agency linked Mr Mull with Mr Walesa, Father Jankowski, Dr

Geremek and a student activist, Mr Jacek Leskow.

Mr Mull was a second secretary with a watching brief over opposition activities in Poland. Neither he nor the embassy has made any comment on the charges.

Mr Walesa and Dr Geremek are due to be interrogated today and Father Jankowski was questioned yesterday. Dr Geremek has been interrogated several times over the past fortnight and, although he is obliged to stay silent about the content of the questioning, it is assumed that the authorities are trying to establish connections between the academic and Mr Zbigniew Bajak, the underground Solidarity leader, caught earlier this month.

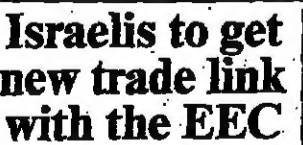
Warsaw claims to have found "espionage material" in Mr Bajak's hiding place.

This may be to discredit Solidarity in the eyes of Poles, but more likely it is a way of demonstrating impeccable socialist credentials before the Communist Party congress next week.

The Soviet version of the Solidarity era has always been, publicly at least, that a group of counter-revolutionaries, subsidised by the CIA, misled the honest Polish working class. The Polish authorities now hope to demonstrate that the Soviet analysis is correct.

© Priest questioned: Father Jankowski was questioned by Warsaw police about his links with Mr Mull for two and a half hours yesterday, the priest said (Reuters reports).

Mr Walesa: summoned by police for interrogation



Mr Walesa: summoned by police for interrogation

Paris (Reuters) — Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Foreign Minister, joined Mr Jacques Chirac, the French Prime Minister, yesterday for the launch of an Israeli-European Chamber of Commerce.

Diplomatic sources said the new trade chamber, based in Paris, would bolster economic ties between Israel and the 12 members of the EEC, and tighten political links across the Mediterranean.

But the visit may have wider political significance, coming after the release last weekend of two French journalists held hostage in the Lebanon.

Mr Shamir will meet President Mitterrand and the Foreign Minister, M Jean-Bernard Raimond, today.

He said he had cut his stay in Paris from three to two days because of an internal security scandal involving Israel's Shin Beth security police and the deaths of two Palestinians.

## Waiter tells of killing on Achille Lauro

Genoa (AP) — A Portuguese waiter and an Italian hairdresser who were on the Achille Lauro liner when it was hijacked last year said yesterday that a gunman forced them to dump overboard the body and wheelchair of an elderly American.

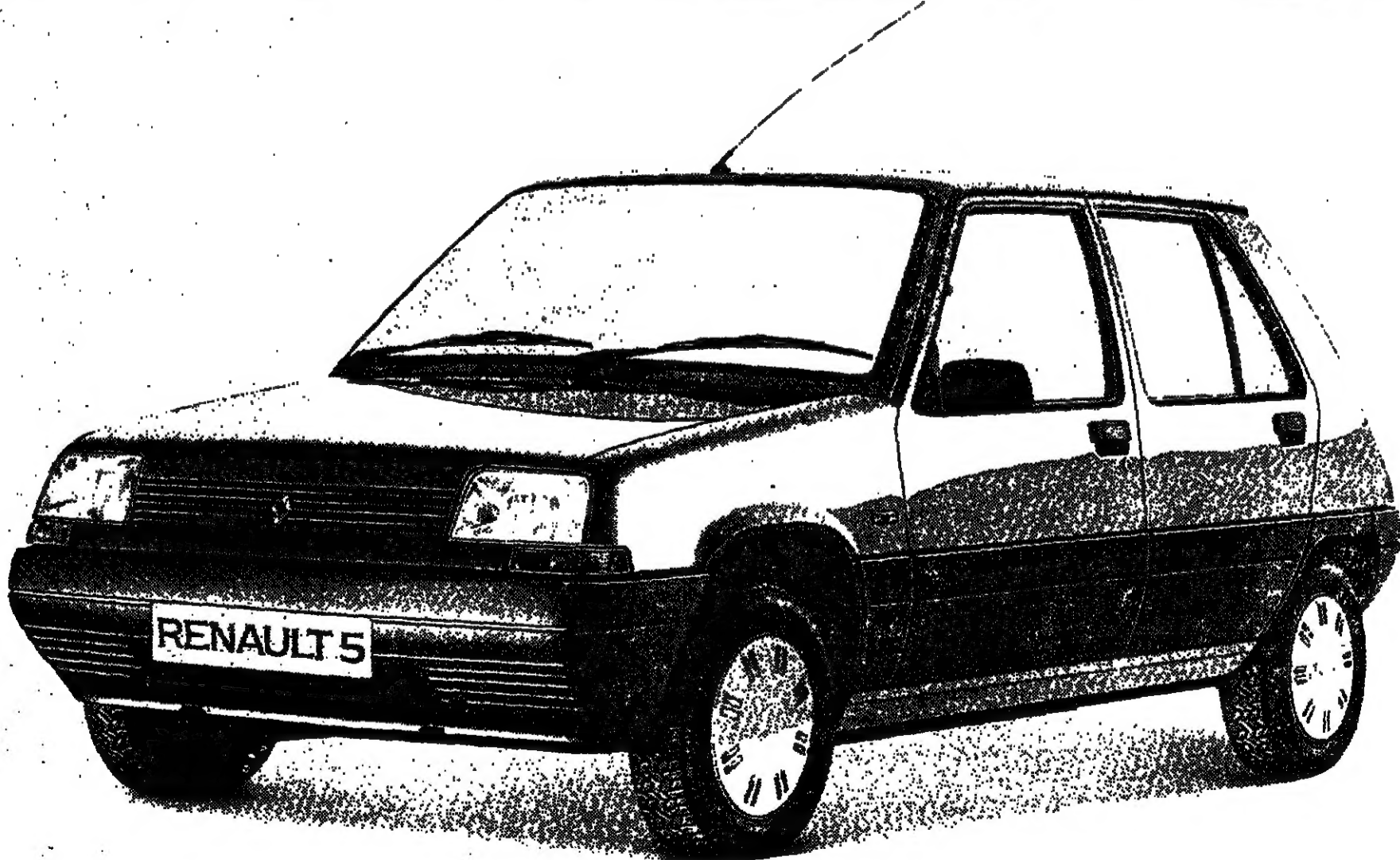
The waiter then identified Youssef Megied al-Moqi, one of the defendants in the court here, as the man who gave them the order.

Señor Manuel de Souza told the court, trying the accused hijackers and 12 other defendants that he was summoned and ordered to bring Leon Klinghoffer in his wheelchair to the deck.

Minutes later he heard shots, and was summoned again, this time to throw Mr Klinghoffer's body into the sea off the Syrian coast. When he arrived on deck Mr Klinghoffer was already dead.

Señor de Souza said he and Signor Ferruccio Alberti, the hairdresser, threw the body into the sea.

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# CONSUMERS TO PAY ANOTHER 10% TAX.

The Government – elected on a tax-cutting platform, you may remember – is about to raise a new 10% tax.

That tax, and the costs associated with it, will push up the price of a blank audio tape by as much as 20%.

The Government is calling the new tax a 'levy'.

Consumers will be liable to pay the Tape Levy whatever their reasons for buying a blank tape.

The Government says that home taping is illegal under existing law but nothing can be done to prevent it. Therefore the law is an ass.

Agreed.

But what the Government proposes will only serve to turn the law into a donkey.

Most people tape their own records to protect their record collection or make it more portable. They have already paid a copyright fee in the original purchase price.

Yet blank audio tapes will automatically be taxed, or, rather, levied.

And the proceeds will go, in the main, to the record companies and the music publishers. And they're rich enough already. (The VAT man will, of course, snaffle up his fair share of the pickings along the way.)

Although every consumer may have to pay the tax, the greatest sufferers will be the young, who buy more blank tapes than the rest of us.

The very same young who are pushing record sales beyond even the glory days of the Beatles. And who, in the buying of those discs, have already paid for the right to listen to them any number of times.

Stop the Government taxing you unjustifiably. Help prevent the Tape Levy becoming law by contacting: The Tape Manufacturers Group, 17-19 Foley Street, London W1P 7LH.

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## Treholt foiled in bizarre bid to break out of Oslo prison

From Tony Samstag, Oslo

The interminable, convoluted case of Arne Treholt, the Norwegian junior minister and diplomat jailed last year for espionage, took its most bizarre turn yesterday with the disclosure of a plan for him to escape and flee to Africa.

Police were holding two suspects, a 17-year-old girl identified only as a Norwegian drug addict, and a Gambian fellow-prisoner nearing the end of a five-year drug-smuggling sentence. Two other people, including a journalist who alerted police to the escape plan, and Treholt's brother Einar, were questioned and released at the weekend.

The escape plan was intended to enable Treholt, aged 43, to pursue his quest to clear his name from the relative safety of Gambia or a nearby country, perhaps Senegal.

A flat in Oslo had been set up as a temporary hide-out, a car ordered from a Swedish dealer and false passports arranged.

It was clear from documents discovered in the possession of the Gambian that the ill-assorted group had no apparent intention of making for any Soviet bloc country.

Treholt, who had planned his escape for Saturday night, when many guards at the medium-security Elva prison near Oslo were watching television, is said to have fainted when told on Friday that he was being moved to the maximum-security jail at Ullevmo.

The journalist, Mr Egil Ulstein, tipped off police after asking a psychiatrist whether the prisoner was really serious about his escape plan.

The documents detailing the scheme came to light when

the Gambian was stopped at the prison gates at the weekend as he set off on special leave, to go to a mosque.

They showed that the would-be fugitives had hoped to set up an import-export business in Africa to support themselves and to finance the attempt to clear Treholt's name.

Treholt's car, bought in the Gambian's name, was to have been waiting outside the barred wire at Elva on Saturday night, and the escape route was to have been via Sweden and Madrid. Disguises were to have been worn, but details are sketchy other than that Treholt was to have removed his glasses.

Last month Treholt suddenly called off a High Court appeal against his 20-year sentence two weeks into the hearing, which was expected to last eight weeks.

He announced his decision in court and said it was because he had despaired of finding justice in Norway.

One of his lawyers, Mr Alf Nordhus, said yesterday that the bungled escape plan demonstrated yet again how unlikely it was that his client could have functioned effectively as any kind of spy.

Treholt was head of the Foreign Ministry press section, and thought to be one of the rising stars in the Government. He was arrested in January 1984 at Oslo airport as he prepared to board a flight to Vienna, where he allegedly planned to meet a member of the KGB. Police said his briefcase was bulging with 66 classified documents.

He has steadfastly maintained his innocence, as has his family, and it is certain that the events of the weekend will not be the end of the story.

## Gandhi in pact with rebel tribe

Delhi (AP) — Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, has reached a draft peace agreement with the leader of rebel tribesmen in Mizoram state, All-India Radio reported yesterday.

The settlement with Laldenga, chief of the underground separatist movement in the northern Indian state, would be signed after the Cabinet had approved the draft.

Laldenga, who opened talks with the Government after returning from exile in England this year, said the two sides were on the brink of signing the settlement.

News reports said the pact would give Laldenga's Mizo National Front effective political control of Mizoram. In exchange, Laldenga would halt violence.

Last year, Mr Gandhi signed separate agreements with Sikh moderates and anti-immigrant agitators in Assam.



## Protests at Punjab killings

Amritsar (AP) — Sikh extremists killed a retired army colonel and stabbed to death two Hindus in hit-and-run attacks in Punjab, police said yesterday.

The stabbing of one Hindu youth yesterday outside a Sikh shrine in Amritsar started rioting and arson. Police wielding batons dispersed crowds hurling stones.

A curfew remained in the old section of Amritsar, the Sikh holy city. It was imposed over the weekend after police shot and killed one demonstrator and wounded two others during a general strike called by Hindus in protest against Sikh terrorism.

State police reported three other extremist attacks overnight in Punjab.

Rajinder Singh, a retired Sikh colonel, was shot dead in his house in Gurdaspur district, bordering Pakistan. In Amritsar, a Hindu was killed by militants armed with spears and swords, a police spokesman said.

The Indian Interior Minister, Mr Buta Singh, met the Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, in Delhi yesterday and reportedly discussed ways to stem the violence.

● DELHI: Mr Gandhi yesterday urged Punjab's Chief Minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, to restore order and expressed concern at the flight of Hindus terrorized by Sikh gunmen (Reuters reports).

## Inspectors in Japan radiation accident

Tokyo (AP, UPI) — Twelve people, including inspectors of the International Atomic Energy Agency, were "slightly" contaminated by plutonium yesterday.

They were inspecting a plutonium storeroom of the Power Reactor and Nuclear Fuel Development Corporation, owned by the Japanese Government, at Tokaimura, north-east of Tokyo.

A corporation official said the Japanese were sealing a stainless can containing photo-

nium, witnessed by the IAEA. The official said employees were investigating how plutonium leaked from the can. The amount of radiation to which the 12 were exposed was "very low" and was not believed to be dangerous.

● MOSCOW: Workers toiling to build a concrete slab under the ruined No. 4 reactor at the Chernobyl nuclear plant have completed the task three days ahead of schedule, according to Soviet radio (AP reports).

## Nigeria delays judgement on two Britons

Lagos (Reuters) — A Lagos appeal court yesterday deferred judgement until Thursday on an appeal by two British engineers jailed for 14 years each for conspiracy and theft of an executive jet.

Kenneth Clark, aged 39, and Angus Patterson, aged 41, have been held since May 1984, when they were arrested for servicing the jet before it was flown out of Nigeria in defiance of a military regulation grounding private planes.

Judge Philip Nnamaka-Agu said judgement in the appeal heard on April 22 was "not quite ready".

## Aquino scolds Asean for its poor record

Manila (Reuters) — President Aquino of the Philippines criticized the Association of South-East Asian Nations yesterday at the start of a meeting of the grouping's foreign ministers.

"After 19 years of existence, Asean should already be evaluating the impact of the regional economic co-operation instead of endlessly discussing how to get it off the ground," she said.

The "seeming indifference of the rich countries to our economic situation" should have prompted Asean to look after the region's interests.

## Penang Governor to rule on hanging appeal

From M G G Pillai  
Kuala Lumpur

Hopes were raised slightly yesterday for two Australian drug traffickers sentenced to be hanged in Malaysia, when the lawyer for British-born John Kevin Barlow, aged 29, asked for their executions to be delayed while he argued a fresh appeal.

Tan Awang Hassan, the Governor of Penang, has indicated that he would rule on that appeal later today, but legal sources thought the pair, Barlow and Brian Chambers, aged 28, were chancing at straws.

Mr Karpal Singh, Barlow's lawyer, argues that since the Attorney-General, who is also the Public Prosecutor, set on the Pardons Board that rejected the clemency petition, it should have heard counter-arguments from the condemned men's lawyers.

Previous attempts to stop executions on constitutional grounds have not succeeded, and there is no reason to believe that this one will.

That appears to be registering with Mrs Barbara Barlow and Mrs Sue Chambers, the mothers of the condemned men, who seem to have resigned themselves to the fate of their sons.

The two women and Michelle, Barlow's sister, aged 17, arrived here on Saturday, and were told that the Pardons Board had rejected the clemency petitions earlier that day.

Under normal circumstan-



Mrs Sue Chambers knocking at the door of Pudu prison yesterday, on her second visit to her son, who faces execution.

## Australian jail offer to Malaysia

From Tony Duboudin, Melbourne

ces the death sentences would be carried out about five days later.

The three women have been meeting Barlow and Chambers in Kuala Lumpur's overcrowded Pudu prison.

Yesterday Mrs Barlow and Mrs Chambers saw their sons for 4½ hours.

When they left Mrs Barlow said outside the prison gates:

"He is calm. Collected. He is an extremely brave boy."

Mr Brian Burke, the Premier of Western Australia, has teleaxed the Malaysian Government asking for Barlow and Chambers to be sent to Western Australia to serve life sentences without remission, which would mean 20 years in jail.

Mr Burke's plea came as Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, admitted that there was nothing further the Australian Government could do to save the two from the gallows.

"The Government has done all it can, it has made its representation to the Malay-

sian Government," he said. "Mr Hayden (the Foreign Minister) did that strongly."

"I would still hope that something could be done within the Malaysian process, but there is nothing more the Australian Government can do."

## Curfew on tourist island as mobs riot

Bangkok (Reuters, AP) — Mr Prem Tinsulanonda, the Thai Prime Minister, declared a state of emergency on Phuket Island after mobs put an ore refinery, vehicles and a luxury hotel to the torch and stormed Government buildings.

The riots on the popular tourist island grew out of an anti-refinery protest by up to 100,000 people. The protesters claimed the plant would pollute the environment.

Mr Prem imposed a dusk-to-dawn curfew on Phuket "to protect lives and property... and for the security and safety of the kingdom," Radio Thailand announced.

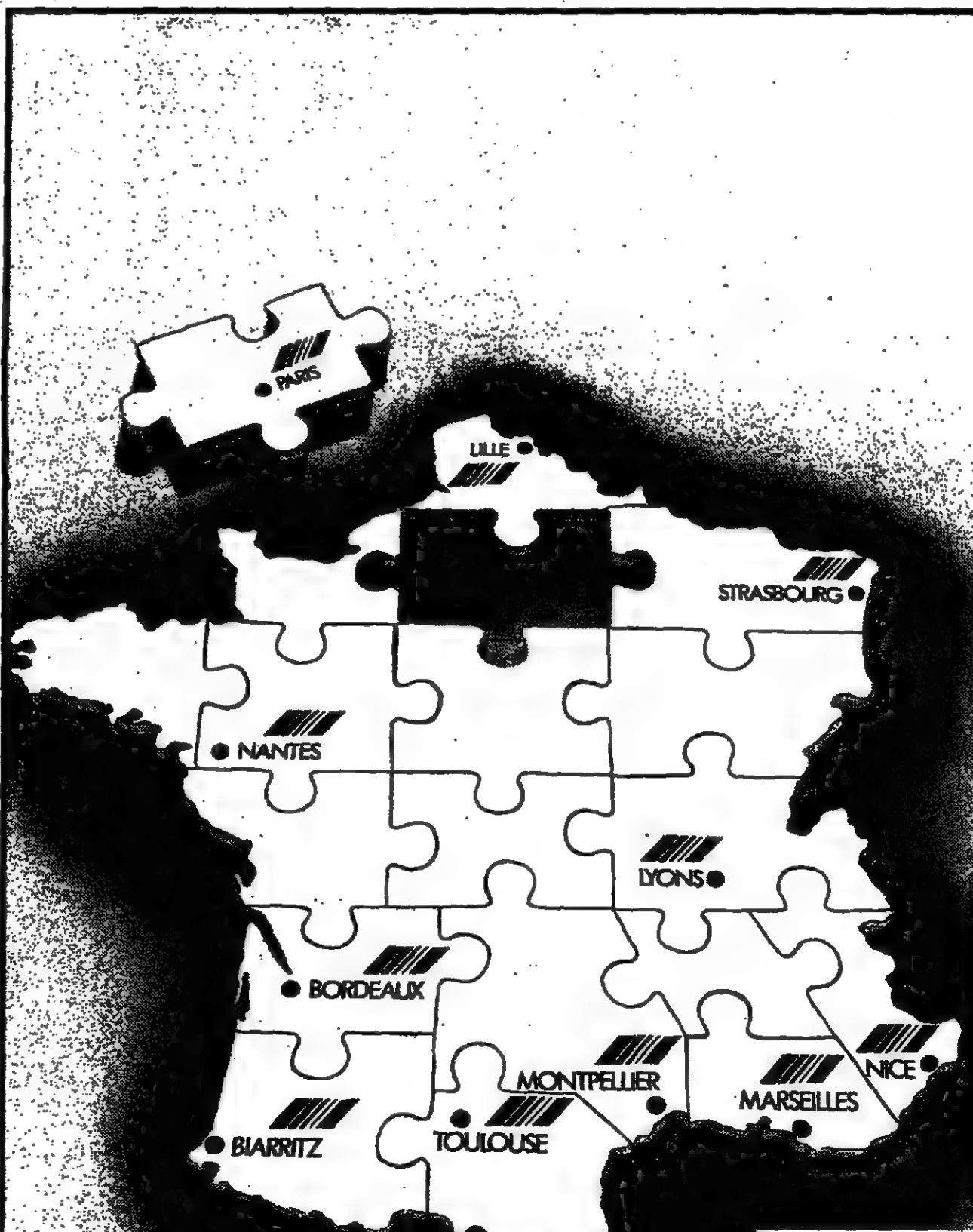
Police reinforcements were rushed in and military units placed on standby. But there were no reports of casualties.

The Industry Minister, Mr Chirayut Isarakun, Na Ayutthaya, was evacuated as protesters surged out of control and blocked fire engines from reaching the burning areas. He was flown by helicopter to the nearby town of Had Yai.

The plant is to produce tantalum, a metallic chemical element used to make various electronic components.

A tour bus in front of the Merlin Hotel was among seven vehicles set on fire.

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**LEGAL APPOINTMENTS  
ALSO APPEARS ON  
PAGE 33,34 & 35**

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## Nakasone on the campaign trail

## Leader in his element

From David Watts  
Kofu, Japan

When the Japanese Prime Minister goes on the campaign trail there seems to be only one issue in the general election — Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone and his record.

And in truth there is little else at issue, even in the eyes of the Opposition, which consistently contests the man rather than the party, thereby contributing to the strength of the Nakasone image.

In the heartland of the Liberal Democratic Party's territory the Prime Minister sometimes sounds as though the achievements of the Nakasone administration were all his own work.

Despite protestations that he has no interest in serving as party president and Prime Minister beyond October, when he is on the hustings the real, the political Mr Nakasone, comes out: "Please let me continue with the work I started three-and-a-half years ago. Please let me set the road for Japan for the 21st century," he told a small, mid-morning crowd in the centre of this medium-sized town.

Kofu should be safe LDP country. Its political "godfather" is the secretary-general of the party, Mr Shin Kanemaru.

It is largely agricultural; vineyards seem to cover every spare inch, including a roadside garage, and stretch to the very foot of the mountains which surround the town.

In the 1983 election, though, the LDP dropped one of the four seats it usually wins here, and if the party is to regain control of all Diet committees and rid itself of dependence on a coalition partner it must reach its full potential in places like Kofu.

There are generous compliments to Mr Kanemaru for his help for the Prime Minister, and one of the customary self-effacing comments — "his handling of the opposition parties allowed a clumsy man like me to maintain his position as Prime Minister."

He does not hesitate to drop all the famous names he has met during his term of office: Mr Gorbachov, Mr Reagan and Mrs Thatcher, even the visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales is used to

**All change in air fares**

Tokyo (AP) — Japan yesterday said it would allow airlines to raise fares from the US to Japan by 12 per cent for economy class and 10 per cent for first class, with effect from July 1. The move is in connection with the yen's rise against the dollar.

Fares from Japan to the US are to be reduced by 10 per cent in the autumn. The change became necessary because the yen's sharp rise

impress the voters of Yamaguchi prefecture.

There are not many of them, though: 500 people on a car park in the centre of town, mostly office workers taking a little time off work.

Mr Nakasone's public popularity seems to rest on his ability to deal with such foreigners and to give Japan a world image commensurate with its economic power.

But one cannot help getting a sneaking feeling that such things as the Mackawa report on the restructuring of the Japanese economy came up in his morning press conference because a contingent of foreign journalists was along with the Prime Minister.

Such international issues and big names have precious little to do with a town like Kofu, and whether the Socialists can be driven from one or both of the two seats they hold here will depend more on Mr Kanemaru's ability to deliver

**widened the difference between the dollar-based air fare from the US to Japan and the yen-based fare from Japan to the US, a Transport Ministry official said.**

Round-trip fares from Japan to Europe, including Paris, London, Rome, and Frankfurt, will be reduced by 12 per cent, but one-way fares from Europe to Japan are to rise by 3 per cent from July 1.

local goodies than Mr Nakasone's high-level international connections.

"Overhauling" post-war Japan is the Prime Minister's main theme, but the local journalists are more interested in whether plans are progressing for a new highway which would link the Sea of Japan coast and the Pacific coast.

They want to know, too, if a new linear railcar line will run through Kofu, linking it with Tokyo and the central city of Nagoya.

These are the sort of issues that bring in the votes. Mr Nakasone does not have concrete news on either point, but the road scheme should be addressed in a forthcoming land development plan, he says.

The Prime Minister has conditionally agreed to a plan for a television debate with the leaders of the opposition parties.

The challenge was made by Mr Masashi Ishibashi, leader of the Socialist Party, but Mr Nakasone wants the affair to be a man-to-man confrontation with the head of each party rather than the panel debate Mr Ishibashi had in mind.

He also wants the range of issues expanded from five to 10 in order to take in some which can only embarrass his principal opponent, not least of which is the question of nuclear power policy in Japan, over which the Socialists are badly divided.



Mr Nakasone meditating in a Zen Buddhist temple in Tokyo after returning from an election campaign tour.

## Economic forecast a blow to Hawke

Sydney (Reuters) — Australian manufacturers predicted economic gloom for the rest of the year yesterday, as opposition mounted to the austerity programme of Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister.

The Confederation of Australian Industry (CAI) said its latest survey showed that business confidence and investment prospects were at their lowest level since Mr Hawke came to power three years ago.

A majority of manufacturing companies reported a significant drop in production for the first time in three years, and the situation was expected to get worse, the survey said.

Economists said the pessimistic business expectations were a blow to the Government, which had been counting on a revival in manufacturing to help reduce the nation's increasing balance-of-payments deficit and relieve the external debt burden and the battered Australian dollar.

Meanwhile, the left-dominated Victoria state branch of Mr Hawke's Australian Labor Party unanimously rejected his appeal for wage and other restraints as part of an austerity drive.

Officials of the Australian Council of Trade Unions said they would not be able to control their members if Mr Hawke pursued his plan to grant only half the expected wage increases this year.

Mr Brian Howe, the Minister for Social Security, said an important wages agreement among unions, Government and industry was at stake and the Government would lose the next elections if it collapsed.

## Ugandans touched by plight of ape boy

Kampala (UPI) — A four-year-old war orphan in Uganda, found in a tribal killing ground after surviving on a diet of grass and roots, walks like an ape and has not spoken in nine months.

The plight of the matchstick-limbed child was shown on Ugandan television after a visit to his Kampala orphanage by Mrs Janet Museveni, wife of the President.

After the programme, dozens of Ugandans turned up at the home, apparently to offer help. But the young child, whom the staff call Robert, lives in a twilight world of his own.

"We don't expect him ever to lead a normal life," said his nurse, Sarah Lubega. "He eats grass or is seen gnawing bits of wood, often acting like an animal."

The boy has not uttered anything other than a high-pitched, monotone wail since he was found by soldiers nine months ago in the Lower Triangle war zone.

He refuses to stand, crouching on his back, knees tucked under his chin. He "walks" in a crawl, swinging on his knuckles.

Staff cannot get him to wear shoes or socialize with others. He tears most clothes he is offered to shreds with his teeth, though occasionally he tolerates a loose shirt.

Every known Ugandan language has been tried on him. There is no response. Robert squats day in, day out, staring at his surroundings, his eyes glazed in an expression of total disinterest.

## Anarchists say they started Athens fire

From A Correspondent, Athens

An anarchist movement claimed responsibility for a fire on Monday that destroyed two offices of Greece's ruling party, the Panhellenic Socialist Movement (Pasok), police said. It was the second arson attack this month on Pasok targets in Athens by left-wing extremists.

Fire broke out at 5.40 am local time in a Pasok building in central Athens, gutting the fifth-floor offices of Pasok's regional government headquarters and the sixth-floor

offices of its youth movement newspaper, *Agonists*.

Police said it was caused by an undetermined liquid substance and old damage valued at about 15 million drachmas (£720,000).

In a call to a local newspaper, a group called Anarchistic Actions said it started the fire. The group first surfaced when it claimed responsibility for a similar blaze at the offices of the weekly party organ *Exomissis* on June 1.

## Cold comfort for consumers as import houses cash in

From Our Own Correspondent, Tokyo

Cheaper imports, holidays and a glow of national pride generally overcome countries with skyrocketing currencies.

Not so Japan. Ever since the yen took off in September most Japanese have had little positive to say about the country's new-found monetary strength.

The only voices to be heard tend to be half-strangled cries from small and medium industries. The great beneficiaries, the trading houses and importers of raw materials, say nothing and the poor Japanese consumer takes what he or she is given.

And what the Japanese consumer is getting out of the strong yen is exceedingly modest, given the strength of the currency and the expectations that such strength is likely to generate abroad in terms of

increased consumer spending and more imports.

The top names in Japanese business have all been taking a big drop in earnings, from a relatively modest 7.9 per cent at Sony for the last six months to a fall 40 per cent at Mitsubishi Heavy Industries for the year ending March 31.

Oil and power companies are enjoying big increases in profits through a happy combination of falling oil prices and a strengthening yen, but so far little of this has been passed on to the consumer.

Electricity prices for consumers have been reduced slightly but not enough to make a significant impact on household bills; wholesale prices are down by some 9 per cent over the last year and inflation is almost non-existent: all of which appear to be

## Problems of the soaring yen Part 2

an excellent recipe for a consumer spending boom.

But ask a Japanese wage-earner what it feels like to be so well off and he will conclude that you must be talking to somebody else.

The figures, too, show that disposable income in Japanese households has risen by less than half of 1 per cent for each of the past two years. That is expected to show a considerable increase this year, but even if it does most of any surplus is likely to find its way into savings for children's education or old age.

Besides, there is a widespread suspicion that as soon

as the Liberal Democratic Party is safely returned after the election it is likely to show its appreciation with a tax increase.

Certainly some prices of imported consumer goods have eased down: some brands of Scotch are now cheaper, while importers of others argue that it is better to use the extra money to build increased market share rather than cut prices.

But while a Japanese camera can be bought more cheaply in London than in Tokyo, boxed English tea on a Tokyo supermarket shelf costs four times its London price, and a box of Weetabix which sells for 74 pence in Britain is £3 in Tokyo.

Many foreign imports sell on the strength of their exotic qualities and a high price, but there are signs that the stronger yen is giving a boost to the

smaller trading houses, which can react more quickly to changes in prices.

The big trading firms often strike back at the smaller fry by putting pressure on banks to stop their loans, but one example of a smaller firm actually forcing a big one to reduce its prices in the case of imported olive oil, the price of which is now lower than it was five years ago.

An example much closer to the hearts of both Japanese and foreign consumers is Coca-Cola.

Coca-Cola bottled or canned in the United States is now cheaper than Coke bottled in Japan; the Japanese subsidiary is likely to have a difficult time this summer if many smaller firms take up parallel imports.

British cars are having an exceptionally good year, with sales of Minis up 100 per cent

and Jaguars by 45 per cent. Their success is not so much due to the immediate effects of the strong yen — the prices of Minis were reduced last year — as to the relative values, which are shifting in favour of imported cars.

This year Austin-Rover Japan has become the third-largest importer, and is looking forward to an annual rate of imports of 6,000 cars by the end of the year. The cheapest Jaguar sells at 9.95 million yen (£39,000) in Japan and the most expensive at 15.29 million yen.

Suddenly to reduce the price of Jaguars would be to undermine their second-hand value. Small beginnings perhaps, but Mr David Blume of Austin-Rover Japan hopes they may signal an opportunity to break through the 60,000-imported-cars-a-year barrier. Concluded

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1-ton Pick-up - £4995, 4WD - £6775

Urrvan, Petrol - £5795, Diesel - £6569

Cabstar Chassis Cab, Petrol - £5402, Diesel - £6166

Cabstar Pick-up, Petrol - £5748, Diesel - £6513

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For 22 years, the poet Armando Valladares was the victim of the Castro regime's gaolers and torturers . . . extracts from his prison memoirs begin today

# Light of hope in Cuba's darkness

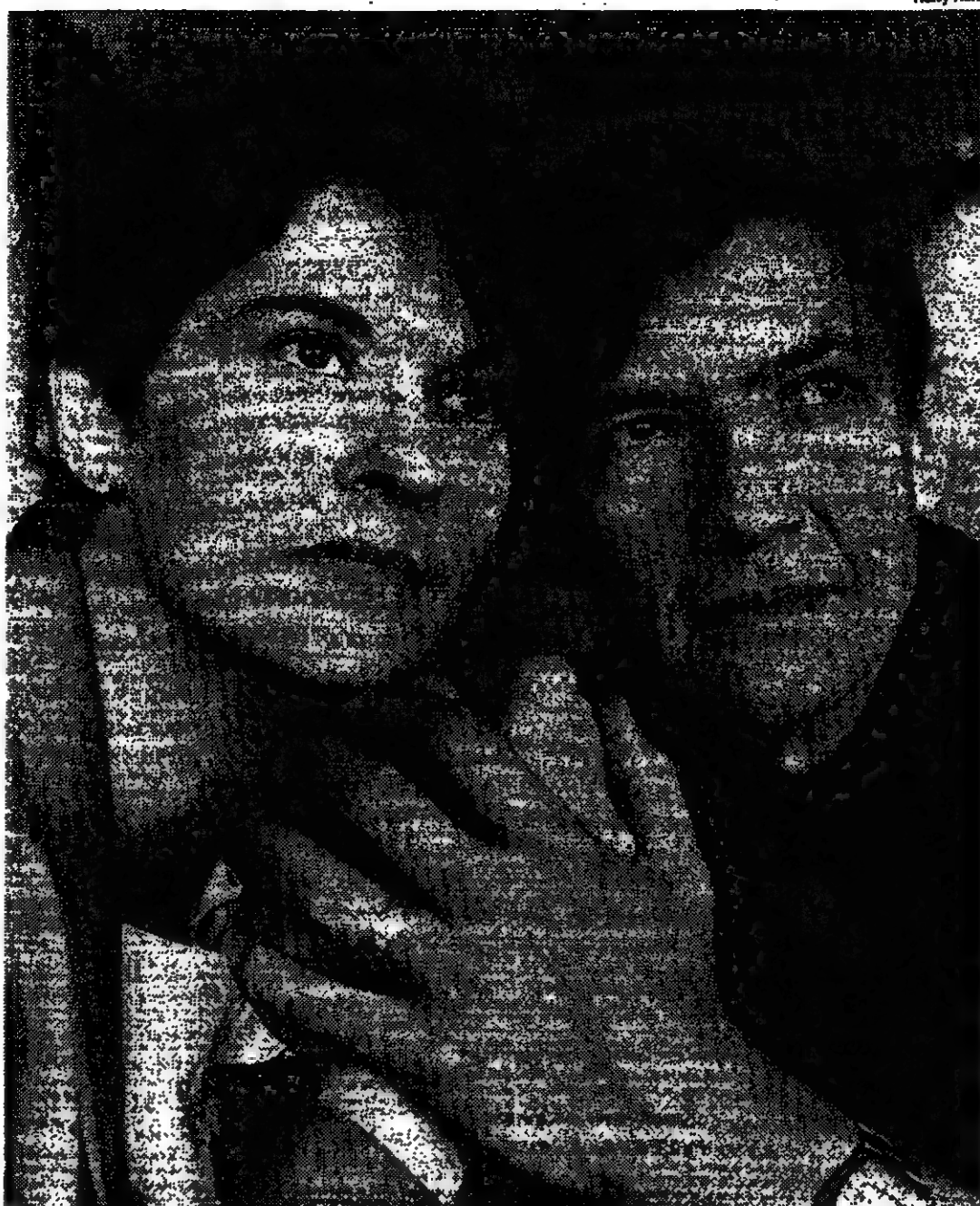
Armando Valladares, law student, poet, sculptor and painter, was an opponent of the regime of President Fulgencio Batista.

He was arrested by Fidel Castro's revolution in 1959. But on December 28, 1960, he was arrested for publishing criticisms of Cuba's close links with the Soviet Union, though he was in fact charged with illegal possession of firearms and explosives. After a two-hour trial, on January 15, 1961, he was convicted and sentenced to 30 years in prison for "offences against the state authorities". He was aged 23.

After his conviction, Señor Valladares was sent to the prison on Isla de Pinos, but later he was moved — together with other "problematic prisoners", the "plantados", who refused to submit to the rehabilitation programmes administered by the prison authorities — to La Cabaña, and later still to the notorious Boniato jail, where isolation and appalling conditions have led to repeated prison

uprisings. A protracted starvation diet, and the absence of all proper medical care, left him paralysed for several years, and it was not until 1980 that he was allowed the use of a wheelchair sent to him by Amnesty International. When, in 1978, the Cuban government announced a general amnesty for many hundreds of political prisoners, Armando Valladares was not among them.

Deprived of paper, Valladares wrote on torn-off margins of the official newspaper, *Granma*, and the pieces were smuggled out of prison in dirty laundry. Three volumes of verse and letters were published, the best known of them a book of poems called *From My Wheelchair*, prompting European intellectuals to start a campaign for his release. In October 1982, after the personal intervention of President François Mitterrand and growing world pressure, Armando Valladares was freed. He had spent 22 years in prison. He now lives in Madrid.



Safe at last: Armando and Martha Valladares in Madrid, where they now live with their baby.

This book is my account of the 22 years I spent in the political prisons of Cuba because I had said that I was opposed to the regime of Fidel Castro. I dedicate it to the memory of my companions murdered and tortured and to the victims who still remain in his 200 prisons.

I woke to the muzzle of a machine gun held to my temple. Three armed men were standing round my bed. "Where's the pistol?" As the man with the machine gun kept my head still, another slid his hand under it to check for that imaginary pistol I was supposed to be armed with. The oldest of them, a thin man with greying hair, told me to get dressed — I had to go with them. These were Castro's Political Police.

When I had my clothes on, they began the search of the house. They spent almost four hours going through everything. They opened jars and bottles, they went through the books page by page, they emptied toothpaste tubes. I tried to reassure my mother and sister that this must be some sort of mistake.

The search finally ended, and no weapons or explosives or propaganda lists had turned up. They had to leave empty-handed. Or almost empty-handed — they took me with them. They told my mother not to worry, I'd be right back. This was December 28, 1960 . . . my return would take more than 20 years.

Valladares was taken to the main headquarters of the Political Police, the Cuban "Lubyanka", where he was interrogated. Three days later he was taken by car across the bay from Havana, to the fortress of La Cabana.

Pedro Luis Boitel was the first person I met there. He had fought against Batista in the underground, and later had managed to flee to Venezuela, but he had returned when the dictator fell. We became great friends, as close as brothers.

Every night at La Cabana there were firing squads. Pedro Luis Villanueva and some other prisoners declared a hunger strike to protest against the shootings. They were taken out to the yard and carried to the chapels, which were now reserved for prisoners going to death.

Clodomiro Miranda, former commander of Fidel Castro's army, was also being held in that improvised death row. He had fought with great courage defending liberty and finally rose to the

rank of commander. Though he was not a man of great political consciousness, he could see clearly enough that the revolution was not taking the course that Fidel had promised for it. He took up his weapons again and went off once more into the mountains.

Castro ordered him hunted down, and thousands of militia were sent out to find him. When they captured him, his legs had been completely destroyed by bullets, in a skirmish. He was carried into his trial on a stretcher. When they sentenced him to death he was taken out of the military hospital and locked up in one of the horrific cells without a bed. He was unable to stand up, so he had to drag himself along the filthy floor. His unattended wounds became infected; then they filled with maggots. That is how Pedro Luis and Manuel Villanueva, another inmate, found him. They were the last prisoners to speak with him.

They took Clodomiro down on a stretcher into the moat to the firing squad. One of the guards told us that they tried to tie him to the post, but he simply couldn't stand erect. They had to shoot him as he lay on the ground. When they shot him he cried, "Down with Communism!"

Thirteen days had passed since the morning I had been taken from my home and carried to the Ministry. In that short time the Political Police had prepared the whole case. I and some others, among them Oliver Obregon, my friend who was arrested with me, were to be tried on the same day.

In the courtroom we found a wooden platform with a long table set up on it. At the table the members of the tribunal were sitting talking among themselves, laughing, and smoking cigars, chomping on them in Pancho Villa style. They all wore military uniforms. It was one of those typical tribunals, made up of anybody at hand: this one was composed of labourers.

At the start of the trial, the president of the tribunal, Mario Tagle, put his feet up on his chair and opened a comic book. From time to time he turned to the men on each side of him and showed them some titbit that had struck him as particularly funny. They'd all laugh. And the sad truth was that paying any attention to the proceedings, even out of courtesy, was utterly unnecessary, and they knew it. The sentences had already

been decided on and written out at Political Police headquarters.

We had already been told by Obregon's defence attorney, Dr Aramis Taboada, who had connections inside State Security and who often defended political prisoners in the early 1960s, that there were not to be any death sentences handed down at our trial. One can imagine what a relief that was to all of us.

The prosecutor asked me two or three questions, largely related to my religious beliefs. He then turned to the president of the tribunal and told him that I was an enemy of the revolution who had committed the crimes of public destruction and sabotage.

But neither then nor later — because for 20 years I kept asking — could any of the authorities tell me where I had committed an act of public destruction. There was not one witness to accuse me, there was not a single piece of evidence against me. I was found guilty, simply out of the mistaken "conviction" held by the Political Police.

Early in 1959 Castro gave a speech in front of the Presidential Palace in which he declared: "There will not be more than about 400 henchmen and conspirators against the revolution executed." But many more than that had already fallen before the firing squads.

There were nights at La Cabana when there would be 10 or 12 executions. You would hear the bars of the man's cell door and someone coming to the bars to see his friend and cry out to him the last goodbye.

The corpses were taken to

Colon Cemetery, where they were buried in a common grave, without a marker. Their families did not even have the sad privilege of knowing where their loved ones were buried.

After the trial, Valladares was transferred, with more than 300 prisoners, to the notorious prison at Isla de Pinos — the "Model Prison".

We had heard a lot of talk about the prison we were being taken to, about the forced labour in the quarries, about the chilling searches in which some prisoners always wound up dead, and hundreds wounded by bayonets. We had also heard about the sinister dark punishment pavilions with their solitary-confinement cells.

W e came to a kind of basement where militiamen were already waiting for us before several piles of prison clothes. "All right! Get those clothes off, all of you! Everybody! Strip!" Everything was a rush, everything had to be done in a hurry, under the constant menace of being beaten or run through with a bayonet.

It is impossible to describe what I felt at that moment, standing there like that, naked, facing the wall, with the militiamen and guards laughing and making fun of us, cracking jokes about our nakedness.

Once the search and sacking of our possessions were done, each inmate was given a change of clothing. Those who wore small or medium were given large-sized clothes, and the big or fat men were given small sizes.

As we left we passed a poster on the basement wall with a thought

from Fidel Castro: "The revolution is greener than palm trees".

Since it was the common prisoners, supervised by a militiaman, that cooked the food for us, and since a revolutionary is defined by, among other things, his hostility and aggressiveness toward counter-revolutionaries, some dreadful things happened to our food.

On one occasion more than half the length of a thick cow intestine, rectum included, was floating on top of the soup. The intestine was still full of dung. Complaints were made to the soldier who was head of the kitchen, but he always shrugged off any personal responsibility for things that happened. We frequently found pieces of broken glass. One day the food they brought had dead rats in it.

One morning, at dawn, I heard machine guns rattle and the boom of cannons. I jumped to the window. On the peak of the hills the red-orange blaze of the batteries installed there lit up the early morning. Tracer shells scored the dark-blue sky. Almost directly above us, anti-aircraft shells were booming into black mushroom clouds, and through them floated a B-26 bomber, its silver fuselage gleaming in the morning sun as the explosions peppered and splattered all along its path.

The Bay of Pigs invasion had begun. It was April 17, 1961.

That afternoon technicians and some soldiers arrived in several trucks and began unloading boxes. They filled the foundations of the central tower in the prison yard with a ton of TNT, thereby converting it into a four-storey fragmentation grenade of thick

'From our point of view, we have no human-rights problem — there have been no "disappeared" here, there have been no tortures here, there have been no murders here. In 25 years of revolution, in spite of the difficulties and dangers we have passed through, torture has never been committed, a crime has never been committed.'

Statements made by Fidel Castro to French and American journalists in the Palacio de la Revolución in Havana on July 28, 1983, and published in *Granma* two weeks later.

concrete, whose explosion would generate tremendous heat and tons of shrapnel, and produce a shock wave more than sufficient to kill all 6,000 prisoners. We were informed officially that the dynamite would blow us up if there was another invasion attempt.

Knowing that we were sleeping on a mattress full of explosives destroyed many prisoners' nerves: some went completely mad, or gave way to animal panic. On two nights we were awakened by the blood-curdling shrieks of prisoners who threw themselves over the sixth-floor railing into the prison yard below.

In October 1961, Valladares and Boitel along with two other prisoners managed to escape with the help of a common prisoner. They were recaptured because the people who were to pick them up in a boat did not believe that anyone could escape from Isla de Pinos, and so did not turn up for the arranged meeting. Valladares broke a leg during the escape. On their return they were sent to the punishment cells.

We were already beating my friends. I heard the dry thud of the blows on their naked bodies and the cries and curses of the guards. Since the light bulb in the hallway was at their back, I didn't realize they were armed with thick twisted electric cables and truncheons. "Stand up, faggot!" One of the guards shouted as he raised his arm. Suddenly my head spun in terrible vertigo. They bent me over and exposed my back so he could beat me more easily. It felt as if they were branding me with a red-hot iron. Then I experienced the most intense, unbearable, and brutal pain of my life. One of the guards had jumped with all his weight on my broken, throbbing leg.

The next morning they welded the doors shut. Lieutenant Cruz, head of the Political Police, told Castro had personally ordered it done.

In the brief respites between being prodded awake with a long pole pushed by a guard through the chain-link ceiling of the cell, I would sometimes fall into a deep sleep. Once a rat entered the cell. My inert body must have given

him courage. He began to chew on my fingers, gnawing at them voraciously. Perhaps I moved and he jumped away. But he came back. It was the guard who saved me.

As the weeks without bathing went on, a dark, greasy, scablike layer of filth formed over every inch of my body. A fungus infection began to spread. My greatest concern was to avoid contracting hepatitis. I never touched my food with my hands, but ate like a dog, putting my snout into the plate. All that saved me from complete animality was the images that flooded my mind when I closed my eyes. I recreated the Biblical miracle of calling forth the light within me.

I had come to prison with some religious feeling, my faith was genuine but no doubt superficial, since it had never been submitted to hard trial. Very quickly I began to experience a substantial change in the nature of my beliefs. At first no doubt I embraced Christ out of the fear of losing my life, since I was certainly in danger of being shot at any time.

There came a moment when, seeing those young men for the first time at La Cabana depart full of courage to die before the firing squad and shout "Viva Cristo Rey!" I understood that Christ was indeed there for me when I prayed not to be killed. I realized that he gave my life, and my death, meaning. Both my life and my death would be dignified by my belief in him.

Christianity became, more than a religious faith, a way of life for me. Because of my situation it seemed my life would necessarily be a life of resistance, but I would be sustained in it by love and hope.

Extracted from *Against All Hope*, by Armando Valladares, published by Hamish Hamilton on July 7 (212.95)

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TOMORROW

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## Lore of the rings



Despite the blessings of radio-carbon, many prehistoric datings can be made only to within a century or two. Dendrochronology, the counting of tree-rings, has been used to calibrate the radio-carbon method, but the problem has always been to establish a sequence of rings in one particular timber. Now, however, Queen's University, Belfast, has announced a triumph: an unbroken sequence of Western European tree-rings dating back 7,272 years.

The chronology is based on deciduous oaks growing at low altitudes, which can be successfully cross-dated between Northern Ireland and north Germany. Later timbers are still in standing buildings, but many of the earlier ones come from bog oak dug from wetlands.

Michael Baillie, who led the research, describes the most exciting moment, which came on a train journey to Durham: "Somewhere on the Yorkshire moors we passed a heap of bog oaks. I had just written them off as being impossible to locate again, when we passed the junction of the A1(M) and the A689. This gave us a reference point, and in the

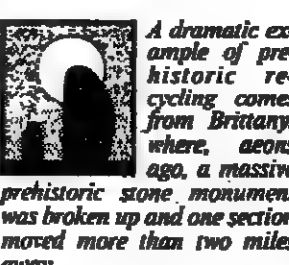
## FINDINGS

An occasional series reporting on research: ARCHAEOLOGY

summer of 1981 I collected 20 samples. They yielded an 800-year chronology from 1150 to 350 BC which bridged the one big gap in the Irish oak chronology.

As a result of the reconciliation of the Irish and German sequences, there is now a strong case for worldwide uniformity of radio-carbon concentration in ancient wood. Baillie says. This, in turn, will make the accuracy of radio-carbon dating more reliable.

## Semi-detached



A dramatic example of prehistoric re-cycling comes from Brittany, where, across a massive prehistoric stone monument was broken up and one section moved more than two miles away.

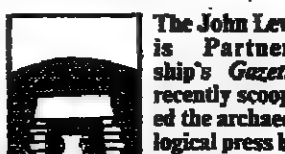
The discovery was made during new excavations at the famous neolithic tomb of Gavrinis, which lies on a small island in the Gulf of Morbihan. The capstone of the chamber, uncovered during restoration work, had carvings on its upper surface which had been hidden since the tomb was built. These include an axe-plough nine feet long and a large cow or

bull with twisted-out horn tips which may have been an attempt at perspective.

The swept-back horns of another animal are on the broken-off lower edge of the slab, and these have now been matched with the body of the same beast, on the over-slab of another megalithic tomb.

The Table des Marchands at Locmariaquer on the mainland, slightly west of Gavrinis. Charles Tanguy Le Roux, the director of antiquities for Brittany, has reconstructed, on paper, the original menhir from which the two slabs were broken, and added a third granite slab found at er-Vinglé: the monument would have been nearly 50 feet high and was erected before 2500 BC.

## Golden find



The John Lewis Partnership's Gazette recently scooped the archaeological press by reporting on the discovery of an important Beaker period burial site, accompanied by gold jewellery thought to be among the earliest metalwork known in Britain.

The Lockford Estate, near Winchester, belongs to the

JLP and the burials were discovered during the stripping of topsoil for an oil "trail". Two skeletons were found in a central grave, together with a pottery vessel of "Bell Beaker" type (probably a beer mug), a copper dagger, an antler spatula, and two gold ornaments. Two more gold pieces were recovered from the 40 soil samples collected during excavations, together with 20 small beads made of an aluminous silicate.

The gold objects, known

colloquially as "ear-rings", consist of roughly oval sheets of gold with a projecting "tail". Each sheet was rolled into a cylinder with the "tail" wrapped round its middle. Linear decoration had been raised with a light punch on the face of each piece. As it would be difficult to insert the pieces into the earlobes, it is thought that braids of hair were pulled through the cylinders.

Dr Norman Hammond

## CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 984

ACROSS	1 Positive balance (6)	2 Ring (5)	3 Indo grade (3)	4 Black/cream/brown cat (13)	5 Weak (4)	6 Flat upland (7)	7 Official announcement (10)	8 Cockpit (5)	9 Sock bar (21)	10 Unkilled (10)	11 Terrible fate (4)	12 Bludgeon (4)	13 Pamphlet (7)	14 Bangladesh capital (5)	15 Unhappy child (4)	16 Manipulate (3)
DOWN	13 Pearl Harbor (17)	14 Notable (24)	15 Xmas (10)	16 Minor (2)	17 Recover (4)	18 Crucifix (14)	19 Extinct (15)	20 Bruise (16)	21 Trauma (19)	22 Dumb (20)	23 Dumb (20)	24 Dumb (20)	25 Dumb (20)	26 Dumb (20)	27 Dumb (20)	28 Dumb (20)

SOLUTION TO NO 983  
ACROSS: 1 Khmer 4 Cockpit 8 Sock bar 9 Mink 10 Aardvark 11 Notable 24 Xmas  
DOWN: 13 Pearl Harbor 17 Rose 18 Sock bar 21 Zingari 22 Fictu 23 Dumb 20 Dumb 23 Dumb 24 Dumb 25 Dumb 26 Dumb 27 Dumb 28 Dumb



## FASHION by Suzy Menkes

## Top spin style

Mixed doubles is the fashion look on court this season. Skirts, shorts and sporty tops make a winning team



Six years ago sporty looks raced through high fashion. Now style has come to sportswear. The action eighties have put top spin on the most classic designs. Stripes broad and narrow break up the expanses of plain white, and shorts, socks and sweatbands pick up colour and pattern.

Sportswear labels are the motifs of Wimbledon wearers, from Fred Perry's victory laurel wreath or Slazenger's prancing puma to Le Coq's crowing cockerel or the three striped leaves of Adidas. The status names bring out the fashion stories first, and this season they are slicing colour into their separates for graphic contrast with plain white.

Separates are the story for active sports designs, and the best of them mix together into a cocktail of clothes. For fair weather amateurs, this means that tennis clothes are not just seasonal garments emerging at Wimbledon and under wraps by September.

Shirts and shorts, track suit jackets and track pants all come together and divide up for other sports, for summer holidays, or even just for lounging at home.

The track suit was the first garment to make the two-way stretch between high energy clothing and leisure fashion. Choice of fabric is important to serious sports players, who may pick skinny pants for

running and looser ones for jogging. Soft shorts, based on the athletic training shorts and made in stretchy towelling, T-shirt or track suit cotton, are another development from track pants. These are the shorts that make action outfits for tennis and play suits for holiday beaches. The curved legs of the shorts, often decorated with a flash of colour, are matched to a shapely cap-sleeved T-shirt.

Apricot and blue, used together, are the high fashion shades of the season. But track suits come too in a wide range of pastels and in much stronger combinations like the yellow, scarlet and black of Adidas action wear.

The polo shirt — short sleeved, with collar and three buttons — is a 1980s classic and beloved by high fashion in plain white; the original Fred Perry pique shirt is still being copied by high street stores after 34 years of sporting life. Lacoste has given the fashion world a taste of mouth-watering colour, traditionally in one solid shade with the crocodile motif snapping at the left breast. The polo shirt also comes up striped, flashed with colour across the sleeves or bisecting the torso in diagonals or squares. When the outfit is designed for tennis, a primrose or aqua blue stripe on the sleeve will be picked up discreetly in the waistband of shorts or edging a dress.

The more formal tennis

clothes for women are the tennis dresses, which are having a minor comeback, or the skirts which team with sports tops, so that you wear a singlet on scorching days or a regular polo shirt to create your own mixed doubles. The Italian sports house Ellesse has given its summer range a feminine touch with insets of pleats in tennis skirts and soft pastel colours mixed with white.

Specialist sports stores are where you get the best advice on suiting yourself in active wear. Olympus has a wide range from tennis clothes to

running vests, shorts and the different weight track suits. Lillywhites is the best known of all sports stores and offers specialist golf shoes or a tennis racket. Harrods Olympic Way is another arena for both committed and fair weather sports enthusiasts.

The high street too has been quick to catch on to the sportswear potential. Marks and Spencer, which started tennis wear as an experiment six years ago, has seen it grow into an eighties success story. Its leading stores now have

sportswear areas which this season, for the first time, include squash and tennis rackets. Its tennis clothes and leisure track suits are in high fashion apricots and blues mixed with white, and in a choice of fabrics from the avant-garde Mirelle to more familiar cotton T-shirting.

Nothing illustrates the triumphant success of fashion sportswear better than the running shoe.

Every child and half the adult population wear trainers. They come in mixes of leather, suede, canvas and man-

made. They have tractor tread soles or punched uppers. They are flashed with colour, tied with fancy laces, and the status name suppliers are as competitive as fitness freaks.

It is a short fashion step from running shoes to running up clothes. Adidas, Nike, Puma and Reebok are household names to a fashion-conscious generation.

No wonder, then, that the centrepiece of the fashion show at the Royal College of Art was the clothes — designed by Anne Tyrell — that go with the Nike Wimbledon shoes.

Above: Silky track pants in sky blue Mirelle polyester piped with apricot. £19.99; cap-sleeve T-shirt £10.99 and apricot and blue stripe V-neck cotton cardigan £16.99; matching sports socks pack £3.99; shoes £12.99. Tennis racket £19.99. All from a range at selected Marks and Spencer branches

Centre: Heart-patterned apricot and white vest top with rib knit inserts, matching pleated skirt, by Silvy. £55 from Olympic Way, Harrods, Knightsbridge. Gingham check socks and shoes from Fenwick of Bond Street

Far left: Candy striped pink and white pleated skirt by Lacoste £31.95, stripe trim top £24.95 both from Lillywhites, Piccadilly. Sporty headband £2.95, socks and gym shoes all from Fenwick of Bond Street. Prince racket, Lillywhites

Photographs by Suresh Karadia

## Sporting jewels

Our top jewellers are having a busy summer of racing and hosting polo

This is a high profile summer for London's jewellers, who are using their social clout to back the sports of princes and kings — as well as staging special exhibitions of gems.

First off 14 years ago were Diamonds International who have added sparkle to horse racing with Ascot's Diamond Day (July 28). They are neck and neck with Cartier, whose International Polo (July 27) is now an annual social and sporting fixture. This Saturday (June 28) Garrard, the Crown Jewellers, present the Birthright polo gala at Smith's Lawn in aid of the charity backed by the Princess of Wales. Van Cleef and Arpels are also backing polo with a trophy at the newly inaugurated Royal Berkshire Club (June 28).



Diamonds International ring set in black steel and gold

The jewellers set in a cluster at the lower end of Bond Street have been celebrating the street's three centuries of excellence, with gleaming gold windows from Greek designer Ilias Laloumis, sparkling displays at Boucheron and a

special collection (until tomorrow) of archive pieces at Van Cleef and Arpels.

Cartier, meanwhile, have played host to the Diamond International Awards — now on the move between Scotland and Israel on a 13-nation tour.

A diamond can never be too big or too bold — that is the message from the award winners, who have used large stones flamboyantly and made lavish settings for the (relatively) smaller diamonds.

Pave-set diamonds, the stones intricately tutted to form a crazy paving of glitter, is an incoming style that was last in fashion in the 1930s. From that era too comes a revival of the square emerald-cut diamond, dramatically set in a circle of black onyx for a brooch by Diana Vincent of the USA.

The choice of materials for the settings is thoroughly modern: diamonds strutting a black leather wrist band from Japan, or a stunning six-carat stone in a black carbon and white agate ring from Italy. The diamonds are set in rock crystal, black lacquer, lapis lazuli and even the space age rainbow-coloured titanium.

Ginnie de Vroonen, one of the two British winners, sums up the trend in her ridged ebony bracelet set with diamonds in platinum and yellow gold.

Fashion trends in jewellery shown in this influential design contest are bold earrings (which have already reached the high street) and the revival of the brooch or pin.

Exciting high fashion pieces include a pave-set diamond brooch shaped like a folded pocket handkerchief from the U.S., a pierrot ruff of yellow gold edged in diamonds from Italy, and the ultimate fashion accessory from France: a Chanel-style head bow made out of gold filigree and studded with diamonds.

On Thursday the newly-inaugurated Garrard award will be made to a student at the Metalwork and Jewellery Department of the Royal College of Art. Garrard have also announced expansion plans for their Regent Street store, and the appointment of a new director, Mr David Thomas, formerly at Collingwood.

EDINA RONAY

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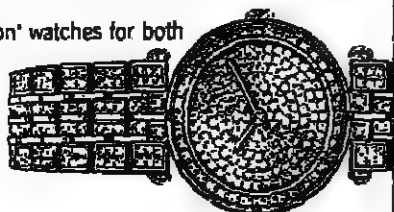
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LIBERTY SALE

## FASHION

Liberty Print Long Lawn Shirt	£25.00	£12.50
Bay Jackson Cotton Jersey Dress	£52.00	£26.00
Amble Side Collar Liberty Print Jacket	£172.00	£86.00
Guy Laroche Floral Dress	£159.00	£79.50
SCARVES		
Printed Silk Squares (90cm)	£32.50	£16.00
Liberty Print Silk Squares (58cm)	£19.50	£9.00
Liberty Print Varuna Wool Shawl	£123.50	£61.00
(140x140cm)		
Amble Silk Square (40cm)	£59.50	£29.00
MENSWEAR		
Liberty Print Silk Tie	£15.00	£7.00
Concorde Socks	£52.00	£26.00
Amble Socks	£39.50	£19.50
Liberty Print Wool Suit	£199.00	£99.50

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Swiss Flat Cotton Crepe (140cm)	£6.50	£2.95
Liberty Plain Varuna Wool (137cm)	£11.00	£5.00
Liberty Print Silk Crepe de Chine (90cm)	£20.00	£10.00
Liberty Print Ready-to-sew Tana Lawn Skirts	£21.50	£10.00

## LINENS

Liberty Plain Cotton Bed linen		
Double Duvet Cover (200x200cm)	£35.95	£16.95
Pillow Case (50x75cm)	£6.95	£3.45
Cotton Jacquard Bedspread (270x270cm)	£125.00	£49.95

## FURNITURE

Old Pine Kitchen Table	£295	£95
Canterbury Three-seater Sofa		
(Fabric: Spice Route Imp)	£654	£395
De Sede Three-seater Leather Sofa	£2,734	£1,365
Ellen Grey Transit Chair	£2,174	£1,495

## CARPETS

Carleton Kilm Carpet (7' x 10')	£495	£245
De Sede Wool Carpet (12' x 15')	£1,330	£665
Savoy Wool Carpet (13' x 12')	£4,500	£2,250
Green Silk Carpet (13' x 12')	£19,500	£9,750

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## THE TIMES DIARY

### Golden silence

Some British companies are less willing than others to reveal that they are supporting the new anti-sanctions lobby group, Bicsa (British Industry Committee for South Africa). A statement by the group, setting out its objections to sanctions, carries the names of only 34 of the 50 companies with interests in South Africa who have paid to join. Among the absentees is Barclays, whose spokesman tells me to "draw your own conclusions" as to why the company does not want publicity for its anti-sanctions stand. "There's a lot of hypocrisy on all sides in this situation," says Bicsa chairman Sir Leslie Smith, while refusing to name the other 15 absentees.

### Slipped discs

The rise of the home computer is putting an end to all those familiar conventional "reasons" for failing to hand in school homework. Teacher Pat Parnell, writing in the current *Readers' Digest*, records the new wave of excuses. "My little brother scribbled all over it with his crayons" becomes "My little brother played Pac-Man on it and erased it." "I left it on my desk at home" has apparently turned into "I left it on my disc at home," while that favourite corporate disclaimer, "The computer was down" has devolved to the classroom. Finally, the perennial standby of the sluggard, "The dog chewed it up," has acquired a high-tech counterpart: "My computer ate it."

### Social realism

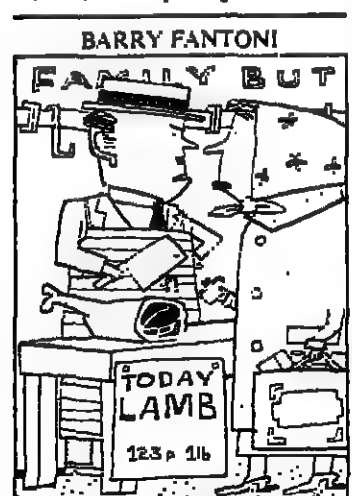
Three sisters playing *The Three Sisters*. Possibly. The enticing prospect is held out by a Dublin impresario, Noel Pearson, who wants Sinead, Sorcha and Niamh Cusack to play the title roles of Chekhov's classic in London in the autumn. Cyril Cusack, the proud father, tells me there is "enormous interest" in the project and it is now "largely a matter of organization". It could mean a tight schedule for Niamh and Sinead. One is playing Juliet in *Romeo and Juliet* for the RSC; the other is soon to appear as Lady Macbeth.

### Some son

Ronald Reagan Junior is set to cause more paternal embarrassment. Recently he appeared in an American television comedy show prancing around the White House in his underpants. Soon he will be seen in an advertisement, with the following line: "Every time I pull out the American Express card people treat me like father." I wonder what would happen if he tried to use it in Russia.

### Close-run

An informant tells me he overheard Jeffrey Archer proclaim in Hachards of Piccadilly the other day that more people watched the television serialisation of his novel *Cain and Abel* than voted Tory in the last election. This would of course be a heresy no less scintillating than John Lennon's claim that the Beatles were more popular than Jesus Christ. Archer was less than amused when I telephoned him. "Haven't you got anything better to write about?" he snapped. "Everyday, I don't say it. Actually, it was Michael Grade who said it to me. You certainly can't use it." Over the weekend, however, Archer's natural love of press freedom got the better of him, and he phoned me with the official figures: Tory voters, 13,061,632; *Cain and Abel* 13,700,000. Very marginal.



There's the radioactive, or the hormone-treated, artificially-coloured, factory-farmed

### Eight some reels

Peter Corn QC, chairman of the Henley Royal Regatta management committee, is less than happy about plans by an unassociated group to hold a July 5 binge which has dubbed "The Henley Royal Regatta Ball". It is due to take place at Fawley Court Mansions in Henley, a large building with extensive grounds, run by nuns. Proceeds (tickets are £25 each) will go to the Divine Mercy College and to Windsor Sea Cadet Society. The upshot is that Ian Halifax, the organizer, has been threatened with legal action. Halifax himself was not available for comment when I rang him, but his father, Frederick Halifax, head of the family business, explained: "We did not realize this needed their permission. We used the name because it coincided in time and place with the regatta. It was done in all innocence." It is now not certain whether the ball will take place.

PHS

# Baldwin lessons for Thatcher

by Timothy Yeo

"The present rates of benefit are too high... they reduce the incentive to seek work..." This sentiment, characteristic of many of the present government's supporters, might have been voiced at any time during the past three years.

Similarly, when the Chancellor asserts that "in the view of the Treasury, unemployment is more effectively arrested by national economy than national expenditure", he shows himself well within the mainstream of Thatcherite thinking.

Of course the achievement of economies is easier said than done. As the Minister of Health points out, "any attack on the health service would produce an uproar out of all proportion to the money saved."

Despite their contemporary ring these three quotations are from 1925, when unemployment benefits were substantially lower than today, public spending was a fraction of its present level and the health service existed in only the most rudimentary form.

They come from a Ministry of Labour spokesman, from Winston Churchill and from Neville Chamberlain, respectively Chancellor and Minister of Health.

Parallels between the Baldwin and Thatcher administrations, despite the personality and philosophical chasms between their two heads, extend far beyond these quotations. Both enjoyed huge parliamentary majorities, yet their massive election victories of 1924

and 1983 were won with only a minority of the popular vote, each the consequence of opposition votes being split between Labour and Liberals.

Then, as now, the government survived a protracted miners' strike which damaged the economy and weakened the miners' union. Then, as now, Parliament passed legislation curbing trade union power and attacking the political levy.

And the Baldwin government, like Mrs Thatcher's, had to grapple with persistently high unemployment after a sharp fall in the rate of inflation: there was concern then, as there is today, about the decline in manufacturing industry and Britain's falling share of world trade.

While major reforms in the field of pensions and local government finance were devised and introduced, the Chancellor maintained a running battle with the spending departments, constantly urging cuts in expenditure. Even civil service manpower came under attack.

Today's party managers must hope that the analogy does not go too far. In the General Election of 1929 the Conservative Party suffered a defeat, being reduced to 260 seats in a hung Parliament in which the Liberals put Labour into power.

The swing to the Liberals was greater than that to Labour, with

the result that no party secured an overall majority. The Liberals were left holding the balance of power and used their position to instal a Labour government.

Some historians have suggested that one of Baldwin's achievements was to give Labour time to mature into a party sufficiently responsible for the burden of office. A similar verdict would hardly be welcome to Mrs Thatcher, yet the danger, though only slight, exists.

The success of the present government in winning the intellectual and political arguments over trade union reform, wider home and share ownership, and privatization may reduce the risk of these measures being reversed by a subsequent administration. But, paradoxically, the more these reforms are perceived as permanent and immutable, the less the electorate will be afraid of a non-Tory majority in Parliament. Neil Kinnock could thus be one improbable beneficiary of the Thatcher era.

To make this possibility less likely three lessons should be learnt from the dying years of the Baldwin government.

● At a time of high and rising unemployment, the Chancellor must be careful not to sound complacent or unsympathetic when making cheerful reports about the state of the economy. Churchill's consistently optimistic

tone in 1924-29 did not help Tory electoral prospects and Nigel Lawson, who has the chance to become only the fourth Tory ever to present five consecutive budgets (Peel being the first), runs a similar risk.

● The political naivete of business tycoons should not be underestimated. A significant factor in 1929 was the well publicized endorsement by top industrialists in an eve of poll "businessmen's manifesto" of Lloyd George's proposals for increased infrastructure investment as a cure for unemployment. However well intentioned, the consequence was to help the Liberals to instal a Labour government.

● Timing and preparation are critical. New rating assessments came in just before the 1929 election, annoying many domestic ratepayers. The election manifesto itself was hastily produced and insubstantial. Such mistakes, in theory easily avoidable, are often made by governments long in office. Some battle-weary Tory backbenchers believe the present one is heading that way.

Historical comparisons can always be faulted by those who wish to stress the differences rather than the similarities between two eras. Nevertheless, the situation facing the Baldwin government before 1929 is close enough in some respects to today to justify more than a passing glance.

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The author is Conservative MP for Suffolk South.

## Robert Fisk on the efforts to bring Syria back in the fold

# Oiling a new Arab line-up

Riyadh

As they have looked northward from this royal capital these past six years, a bleak perspective has greeted the princes of the House of Saud. Israel occupies the land which the Saudis, like most other Arabs, still call Palestine. Iraq is fighting for its life against the Iranians, traditional enemy of the Arabs. Jordan cannot even persuade the Palestinians to co-ordinate demands for the return of the West Bank and Gaza Strip from Israeli occupation. Syria, allied to Iran, has perpetually called for the overthrow of the Iraqi regime. Lebanon, so traumatic a catastrophe that the Saudis prefer not to discuss it, scarcely meets the definition of a nation-state any longer.

For Arabs who still believe in *ittihad* — in unity, and in the political and military strength that unity is supposed to give them — it is difficult to imagine a more dismal spectacle. The only real unity they ever had was under the Ottoman Empire, whose defeat in the First World War effectively broke up the structure of the "Arab nation" to which the dictators of the region now nominally aspire.

In the brief period before the British and French broke their promises of Arab independence and carved up the Middle East into their own spheres of influence, the Hashemites did create a semblance of ghostly Arab nationalism when Feisal ibn Husain, grand-uncle of the present King Husain of Jordan, was elected king of Syria at a noisy *majlis* in Damascus. He was to become King of Iraq. Feisal's brother, Abdullah — King Husain's grandfather — was to become Emir of Transjordan. His brother Ali ruled the Hejaz until Abdul Aziz drove him out. Yet today, the Hashemites control only a tiny kingdom east of the Jordan river, having lost the West Bank to Israel in 1967; Amman is a mere village amid the cities of the Middle East, and Jordan a post-Habsburg Austria in which more than half the population can be classified as refugees.

Thus a special historical burden — some might say guilt — hangs upon the shoulders of King Husain. It is this burden which drove him into the frustrating negotiations with Yasser Arafat for a mandate to seek the return of the West Bank. And it is this same legacy which has given the Hashemite monarchy a pivotal role in Arab affairs once more, by bringing together those same nations once claimed or ruled by King

Husain's own grandfather and grand-uncles.

It is not just a family affair, of course, and the machinery of re-establishing relations between Syria and Iraq is well oiled with Saudi dollars. But the king is now trying to create an arc of security for the Saudis, Iraq and Jordan by turning Syria away from its military and political alliance with Iran. As the news comes in from the front lines of the Gulf War — and the news is all bad for the Arabs, whatever the Iraqis may claim — the Hashemites, the House of Saud and the regimes of Saddam Hussein and Hafez el-Assad may soon be able to take comfort in a new sense of unity, albeit brought about by their mutual fear of Iran and their growing economic problems.

It is not difficult to see the pressures that have been brought to bear upon Syria. Owing millions of dollars in oil payments to Iran, compromised by Iraq's incursions into Iraqi territory, desperate for foreign currency and unable to obtain it from the Saudis without substantial political concessions, unable to establish the credibility of its own anti-Arafat Palestinian guerrilla organization and isolated in its self-declared role as vanguard of the Arab cause, Syria needs friends.

The Egyptians, who realize

there can be no Middle East settlement without Syria, are already privately urging Saddam Hussein to prepare himself for a summit with Assad. All the states in that "arc of security" realize that if the Iraqi dam bursts, it will be Egyptian manpower which will have to be thrown into the breach to prevent the Arabs' greatest disaster since 1948.

In theory, then, a profoundly important realignment is taking shape in the Middle East, a renewal of alliances that King Husain may like to present to the US as a viable negotiating team for the peace settlement for which he yearns. If the Arab states of the Levant and the Gulf can come together, then surely they will have the power to deliver on any commitments about the future security of Israel.

There are, however, two serious flaws in this argument. The first is that the Palestinians must be represented in a new Arab strategic alliance and likely to insist that their leadership is controlled by Yasser Arafat — whom neither Assad nor Husain can now tolerate. The second is that neither Israel nor the US is likely to see any advantage in a powerful Arab front; why should Israel wish to return to the state of affairs that existed in 1967 when Syria, Jordan, Egypt and even Iraq were

sufficiently united to fight together to recover occupied Arab land? And why should the US want to encourage such a powerful Arab coalition when the Arabs would then insist — as they already do, that Moscow should be a co-signatory of any future Middle East peace agreement?

Arafat has said several times that he suspects another Yalta is in the making, a conclave of super-powers and Arab states which would abandon the Palestinians to their fate as surely as the US and Britain abandoned Eastern Europe to the Russians. If his fears prove well-founded, the results will be partly of his own making. The PLO's prestige and morale have never been so low, its fragmentation a symbol not just of Arab betrayal but of its own inability to grasp the opportunity which King Husain has provided for realistic negotiations.

Husain would like to regain his lost territory west of the Jordan river before granting Palestinians the autonomy which they have demanded. He is vigorously publicizing this ambition among European and American leaders. As peacemakers within the Arab camp as well as within the Middle East as a whole, the Hashemites could achieve a new stature. But even now, the mutual suspicion of Iraqi and Syrian dictatorships is preventing any serious dialogue. A planned meeting between their foreign ministers recently failed to materialize; one Gulf newspaper claimed that the talks had indeed taken place but had gone so badly that both sides agreed to deny their existence.

Israel has nothing to gain from an Iranian victory in the Gulf War but equally nothing to gain from an Arab victory. Israeli arms supplies to Iran, however covert their method of delivery, are likely to continue, just as American and French supplies do to Iraq. The Americans are hostile enough towards the Iranians to support the Arabs; but why give the Arabs a new military strength at the very moment when their oil weapon has become redundant?

Meanwhile, the Saudis will go on looking apprehensively to their northern horizon, relying, as always, on the Americans for ultimate protection — just as the Israelis do. Indeed, that is just what the Jordanians, the Iraqis and even the Syrians will be doing if the Iranians take more ground in the Gulf war. As always, any new Arab alignment is going to need the approval of Washington — which probably means the approval of Israel as well.

## Capitalism gorging itself on Liberty

New York

On July 4 — America's birthday, and the Statue of Liberty's centennial — New York will be engulfed in a swamp of schmaltz, the like of which has not been seen in the history of unctuousness.

The intention is to whip up such patriotic fervour, and draw so deeply on the well of sentiment, that for days America will be half choked by the lump in the national throat. The saluting of the statue will demonstrate the potency of national myths and symbols; and as a mega marketing and made-for-television event, it will simultaneously hail and multiply the dollar.

The occasion of the statue's anniversary, signalling the completion of its \$46 billion restoration, will demonstrate the American belief that if something is worth doing it is worth overdoing. Like a spectacle commanded by a pharaoh, or Cecil B. de Mille, it will be stupendous in scale, enabling its participants to gorge on gorgeousness. As an assertion of continuity, identity and patriotism it will be a form of coronation — and, indeed, the lady's crown has been restored, along with her spine, ribs, nose, eyes, arm and gown.

"Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses," goes the poem by Emma Lazarus at the base of the statue. Certainly the masses will be huddled in their millions when President Reagan illuminates the statue on the evening of July 3, inaugurating four days of celebrations.

But thousands of them will have to be very rich indeed to afford the best seats on land and sea. One harbour-side restaurant is charging \$660 a head for dinner that night. Many people are paying similar prices for places on the tens of thousands of boats that will shoal around Liberty island in New York harbour. A man with a harbour view is renting out his flat on July 4 for \$16,600. Chrysler is hiring the QE II to provide a viewing platform for 800 car salesmen. Coca-Cola is renting one of the Staten Island ferries. President Reagan will watch from an aircraft-carrier.

Indeed, Liberty weekend will be as great a naval occasion as a Victorian Spithead review, with warships from 30 countries, 20 tall ships and more than 200 other smaller sailing vessels in attendance. Massed choirs will sing *America the Beautiful*. The Chief Justice will swear in 2,000 new American citizens on Ellis Island,

the former gateway to America, and 40,000 others will join the ceremony by satellite. The biggest flag will be flown, the biggest band will blare and the July 4 fireworks display will be 10 times more dazzling than usual.

Liberty's face and form are everywhere. There are metal, wood and plastic Liberties by the million, and you can buy a 9ft plaster replica for \$530. You can eat chocolate Liberties and a New York delicatessen owner is building a three-and-a-half foot Liberty in chopped liver.

As part of the fund-raising drive, 80 companies have been licensed by the money-raising foundation to use the "official" Statue of Liberty logo. It appears on air fresheners, rubbish bags and beer mugs. But it has been refused to manufacturers who wanted to stick it on coffins, lavatory seats, dog collars and guns.

Although some find it offensive, commercialization of the statue has gone on ever since France gave the 151ft colossus to the United States as a symbol of democracy. Her image has been used to sell a huge variety of things, from corned beef to knickers; and decadent makers have cunningly exploited the upraised right arm.

The marketing and fund-raising for the restoration has been a saga marked by leadership squabbles, a congressional inquiry and the sacking of Chrysler's chairman, Lee Iacocca, from one of the two top fund-raising jobs. He had the sense to hold the other job as well, so he stayed in the limelight.

The Statue of Liberty centennial comes at a time which many Americans feel is the high point in their history. The turmoil and uncertainties of the 1960s and 1970s are far behind them. There is no war and Reagan is a good-time president for the majority who are not poor.

Inevitably, critics point to the humbug and contradiction inherent in the celebration of the noble immigrants whose first sight of the promised land was the statue. The reality was that migrants were often despised and badly treated by their fellow Americans. And for all the "give me your tired" sentiment, thousands were turned away as being too unfit.

Still, the Statue of Liberty, the copper goddess, remains the most powerful of American symbols, a majestic repository of an ideal. And sculpting her in chopped liver must be an act of love.

Trevor Fishlock

Digby Anderson

# Making health a living death

Sobering thoughts as you contemplate the approaching summer holidays: we have been told that exposure to the sun carries the risk of skin cancer, so no more lounging on beaches. Fizzy drinks can make children ill: no Coke, no fizzy lemonade. Eating most things except bran and nuts is risky, so no restaurants. Alcohol, even in minute quantities (a couple of decent drinks a day, says the British Medical Association), can damage your liver and lead to marital friction and child abuse — so no drinks. I should cancel my holiday.

But on no account continue working: stress is the biggest killer of all and, according to a BMA conference earlier this year, will make you have a motor car accident, drive you to drink or both. Who knows, it may induce "comfort-eating" and chronic dependence on that dangerous fizzy lemonade.

Whatever the scientific consensus behind such warnings, certainly less than often claimed, one aspect is unclear. Each interdiction is pronounced individually and thus appears to affect only a small part of life. But place them together, as for the typical sunning, eating and drinking holiday, and they amount to a substantial denunciation of normal life. The more extreme Jeremiahs — let us call them Healthists — are not content with a minor change to a diet of moderation. They want a revolution in western eating, working and leisure to ensure the production and consumption of "healthy" goods in "healthy" factories and homes within a "healthy" environment. Health is the supreme good.

But they are silent on one point: what sort of life would they have us lead? What is the good life according to Healthist opinion? Despite their efforts to smile through mouthfuls of unsalted lentils, their food is patently dull and it's dull to be with people who are eating it. Nellie Wallace immortalized the absurdities of trying to make non-alcoholic drinks play the same cultural role as proper drink in pubs in her song "Let's have a tiddly at the milk bar — let's make a night of it tonight, let's have a tiddly at the milk bar, we'll paint the town a lovely white. You buy half a pint, I'll buy half a pint, we'll try to drink a pint somehow, so let's have a tiddly at the milk bar, and drink to the dear old cow."

Drink, smoking, good food and sunbathing are enjoyments and often socially enjoyable activities. What would the Healthists have us do instead? What should we spend our money on? Indeed, what money or jobs would we have if entrepreneurs did not run the risk of stress or industries were even more hamstrung by restrictions in the name of health?

moreover . . . Miles Kingston

# A postbag of magpies

To judge from recent correspondence about the increasing predatory behaviour of magpies, you would think they were the Colonel Cadafsis of the bird world, terrorizing every other bird within miles and killing quite a few. Some of the letters we've received put a different side of the picture . . .

From Mrs Valery Macassar

Sir, it may come as a surprise to you to know that magpies can be very useful in the antiques trade. In my antique shop we had a tame magpie. As you know, they are great little collectors of worthless trifles. Whenever a customer came to the shop wishing to sell objects, we would always show them to Oscar (the magpie). Whatever Oscar selected, we rejected, as we knew he only went for the rubbish.

Unfortunately he started stealing from the till. He had to go. I believe he is now canvassing for the SDP.

Yours etc.

From Mrs Lana Lerner

Sir, I had a shock the other day when, in answer to a loud knock at the door, I opened it and found a large magpie sitting there. He croaked at me: "Vote for David!" and when I regretfully declined, saying that my vote was already promised for Neil, he flew at me in a tremendous rage and started pecking me. He would only desist when I promised to purchase an SDP badge from a large box of worthless trivia he had with him. I never knew magpies could attack people.

Yours etc.

From Major-General Nigel Prithee

Sir, Oh yes, they jolly well can. He's a fine little fighting bird, is your Johnny Magpie, as we found out to our advantage in the war.

When we were in Italy we found that some of the German companies were communicating with each other via pigeons, which were trained to fly from one position to another. No way of getting at them, of course, until someone had the bright idea of training magpies to go for 'em. Worked like a dream: when we saw the pigeons, off would go the 31st Squadron, the Magpies, and those black and white shapes would cause absolute havoc to your Hans Pigeon.

Finally, they knocked all the pigeons out and after that the Magpies, into the spirit of things by now, started attacking German officers. Harder target, of course, but they got three or four. What I remember best is their annual

It may be that Healthists don't value hedonism, the social aspects of drinking and eating, and possibly they would have stopped the wealth-creating Industrial Revolution in the name of health. But what do they value? There is nothing in their propaganda about life as service to others or life as search for truth and justice. There is no religious dimension. Their concern is overwhelmingly to hang on to this life, to extend it as many days and hours as possible. But what for?

Their is a vision of incredible aridity: a life obsessed with avoiding risk, conceived of quantitatively in terms of extent. Enjoyment, appreciation of fine cuisine and wine, the excitement and productive tension of what they call stress, the danger of innovation . . . all must yield to extending the number of safe, jogging, tensionless, sterilized, pet-free years.

And that may be illusory. When they encourage us not to die of lung cancer or heart disease, we should surely ask them why they should die of it. Not only is there doubt about whether many health campaigns reduce disease, there is evidence that when, as with heart disease in the United States, they marginally do so, life expectancy is not increased. We die of something else. Replacement causes of death may be worse than those current in that they may be more painful, humiliating or costly to others.

Research published in *Social Science in Medicine* suggests that, contrary to the Healthists' propaganda, many smokers die relatively quickly and impose a relatively low cost on others via the NHS. Were they to survive comparatively healthy in nursing homes, subsidised by the state at £170 a week, the costs would be much higher.

What is crucial is that health worship discourages its followers from confronting the eternal and inevitable questions. Mature philosophies, religions and individuals try, with very different results, to ask what life is for, what the good life is and to confront the inevitability of death and its implications for life. Healthists not only evade such issues, they replace them with narrowly medical obsessions about avoiding certain diseases. They talk as if death were not inevitable, as if life can be rendered safe and riskless, as if health were an end, not a means.

A concern for health is right, proper and makes sense within a culture and a moral understanding of life. Elevated to a supreme principle, it is idolatrous and grotesque. "Have you still got those two seats of the flight to Naples?"

The author is Director of the Social Affairs Unit.

regimental dinner, when I'm afraid they all used to get absolutely pie-eyed. They were disbanded in 1945, but in 1948 I remember seeing a magpie in Kent which, distinctly saluted as I passed.

Yours etc.

From Roger Thesaurus

Sir, I wonder how many of your readers are aware that a magpie called Otto was a Hollywood film star for a while. He played the Jackdaw of Rheims, Seagulls over Sorrento, The Thief of Baghdad, etc, but his chief claim to fame was as a stunt bird — if you look at any early diving eagle or cracker vulture, you'll find that all the long shots of spectacular stunts are done by a magpie.

Unfortunately, he was ruined by the advent of coloured films: being black and white, he could no longer stand in for coloured birds.

Yours etc.

From Mr Richard Fustian

Sir, My hobby is starting extremely long and useless correspondences in newspapers, and I wondered if there was any chance of getting one started here by asking: Does anyone know why the next to outer ring of a target is called a magpie?

Yours etc.

From Henry the Talking Avocet

Sir, Hello! Thought you'd like to hear from a real bird. Incidentally, I'm in a summer spectacular show at Ross-on-Wye (the place that changed its name from T.E. Lawrence-on-Wye to avoid publicity) and hope as many of you as possible come along, it's a great show.

Just wanted to reminisce for a moment about a passionate affair I had one summer with a magpie called Pandora. What a creature she was. She used to live in a huge penthouse nest at the top of an elm tree, and croak "Come up to my place some time," to all and sundry. She was quite mortified to find that Mae West had said it first, but of course she didn't have the showbiz background that I did.

We had ideas about marriage once, but her parents didn't like me and my parents didn't like her either, so that was that. She later went off with a guillemot and moved to the Welsh seaside, where she started drinking heavily. Not surprised, either, have you seen the Welsh seaside?

(This correspondence is closed for major alterations.)

APV 10150



by Anderson  
ing health  
ing death



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481 4100

## INTO AFRICA

The Government will decide this week whether to dispatch Sir Geoffrey Howe to South Africa. If he goes, he will be embarking on a peacemaking mission to a country whose people now seem to be bent upon war. It is important that Ministers should decide in the affirmative.

It is equally important that he should go for the right reasons. It would be regrettable if his intervention were seen as no more than a delaying tactic to ease the Government past the next European/Community pressure point on sanctions. This newspaper has clarified its own opposition to sanctions — and to most other so-called "measures", including the severance of air links, which are sometimes preferred as a soft option. It is that sanctions will probably prove to be ineffective but, if they should curb trade and investment, that would paradoxically help to establish the political and economic conditions for a policy of blunt resistance to world opinion.

But there has long been an argument that Britain should play a more positive diplomatic role than that which it has so far sought. And sanctions are not the only form that intervention in South African affairs can take, merely the worst.

As the old imperial overlord, as one of its biggest trading partners, as the leader of the Commonwealth with strong African connections and as Washington's closest ally, there are historic, commercial and political reasons why this country is best placed to talk to South Africa. To these, Britain's forthcoming presidency of the European Council adds a subtle combination of lustre and clout.

Until now the

Government's power to play a constructive part in the South African story has been curtailed by its refusal to talk to the African National Congress (ANC). As the value of any intermediary must depend upon its ability to talk to both sides — especially when, as in this case, the two sides do not talk to each other — Whitehall's non-approach has always been a fundamental drawback.

In theory (and in most circumstances) the Government's demand that the ANC should renounce violence has been unimpeachable. But the situation in South Africa is rapidly passing beyond the point at which such considerations seem relevant.

The first recognition of this came last February when a senior Foreign Office diplomat met ANC officials at Lusaka during the conference of front-line states. Now Whitehall has gone one step further by issuing the invitation for Mr Oliver Tambo, the ANC leader, to meet Mrs. Lynda Chalker, Minister of State at the FCO, during his visit to London.

This decision deserves a cautious welcome — as does the decision by a number of Conservative MPs that he should meet them too. To talk to Mr Tambo does not imply approval of all that he stands for. It does admittedly accord to him a degree of respectability that he might otherwise lack and which, in other circumstances, might be traded for his renunciation of violence. But the degree of conflict in South Africa makes such considerations secondary.

The message which the Government wants to convey to Mr Tambo will include an appeal for South Africa's black majority to turn their backs on violence. Some observers now

question whether the ANC can any more control the situation in the Cape's black townships and would argue, therefore, that Britain is already talking to yesterday's man? But in the absence of anyone else, it is the ANC whom the British government must turn to.

At the very least, a meeting of this kind would be an important symbolic act as Britain seeks Commonwealth approval for its mission. How far Sir Geoffrey would gain by being plugged in to all the conflicting voices in the Commonwealth and on the continent is a matter for considerable argument. There is at least something to be said for letting him get on with it in his own quiet, understated way.

Meanwhile his "Shadow", in the all-too-solid shape of Mr Denis Healey, left for Pretoria last night. It is understandable that the Shadow Foreign Secretary and his deputy should want to conduct a fact-finding exercise of this kind, especially when the facts are so elusive. Mr Healey is a skilled and experienced politician of stature and he could have something valuable to contribute.

On the other hand, he may not. He and Mr Neil Kinnock have shown themselves all too willing to export party politics abroad on recent missions to Moscow and (in Mr Kinnock's case) to India. And Mr Healey's speech in last week's debate subordinated any serious analysis of the problems of Southern Africa and their possible solution to mounting a partisan attack on the Prime Minister. This time he can hardly afford to indulge in that kind of political exploitation without queering the pitch for everyone and, ultimately, damaging the interests of black South Africans whose welfare he professedly seeks to advance.

## THE LAW REFORMS A LITTLE

For a profession which used to measure change in decades and regarded dawdling as the ultimate expression of high speed, lawyers are frenetically trying to make up for years of complacent apathy. Scarcely a week passes without a new report or proposal emanating from, or aimed at, the Law Society or the Bar. Discussion about the future of the legal profession is constant; litigation is undertaken for higher legal aid fees or more rights of audience in the courts; management consultants cannot believe their good fortune at being consulted, virtually in perpetuity, about the efficiency of this or that procedure or structure within the profession; and barristers forego weekends in the country to attend special meetings to discuss latest developments.

Of the two branches, the Bar is the more vulnerable. Its costs, curious traditions, and working practices are coming under increasingly critical scrutiny. At the same time a significant proportion of its members, those who are dependent mainly on legal aid

work, are finding it difficult to earn a modest living, let alone attract the kind of fat incomes that the public traditionally attributes to barristers. The Bar is under siege, too, from within the profession. Solicitors, anxious to compensate for the loss of their conveyancing monopoly, are looking to grab some of the Bar's traditional work, not least its near-monopoly of the right to plead in the higher courts.

The changes to the constitution of the barristers' governing institutions, adopted over the weekend, are part of the Bar's plans to reform its own structures the better to be able to repulse outside attacks and effectively to promote the interests of its own members. One governing body would be substituted for the uneasy power-sharing duality that now exists. Senior judges and the Inns of Court would lose their anomalous influence over the running of the Bar. The newly-elected Bar Council would unashamedly take on a trade union role, negotiating fees that come from public funds on behalf of its members

and if necessary entering the political arena to lobby on behalf of barristers' interests.

There is no doubt that the new arrangements, which would come into force next year, would greatly facilitate the efficient administration of the profession. They will certainly be in the interests of its members who have suffered for too long from having a governing body that was both cumbersome in taking and implementing decisions and ineffectual at presenting the Bar's case to the outside world.

But will they also be in the public interest? The new structure is partly intended to ensure that the Bar should be more able to fight its corner against those who might wish to tamper with the existing division between barristers and solicitors. It is a fight the Bar ought not to win completely. Some re-drawing of the dividing line is needed to remove unnecessary duplication and to ensure that the specialist branch of a two-tier profession is genuinely expert at its professed speciality.

Sixth, we have continued to remind institutions that their financial allocations are to be seen as a whole ("block grant"); no national funding model, even if it were to deal differently with part-time work, could possibly replicate the circumstances of, or be

## THE ICE CREAKS

The elevation of the Soviet Union's lamentably misqualified culture minister to the ceremonial post of USSR Vice-President last week is of significance only in that it opens the way for a more enlightened administrator of the arts in the Soviet Union. That at least is the hope. Whether it is anything more than wishful thinking may emerge from the congress of the Soviet Writers' Union which begins today.

The hope was given some substance at the weekend when the Soviet leader took the unusual step of addressing leading writers in advance of the congress. Calling for more innovative thinking, he acknowledged an implicit break with the past, noting the new role writers had to play in the "moral restructuring" of the country.

Unfortunately, any optimism such words might have inspired was simultaneously tempered by the actions of the Soviet courts. In Leningrad a collector of modern art was sent to a labour camp for selling paintings illegally — a crime which reflects the continued scarcity value and political sensitivity of abstract art. And in the southern republic of Georgia, two members of a pop group were given long prison sentences for human rights activities.

There have, nonetheless, been signs of ferment in the

Soviet arts recently. A commission has just been set up to re-examine all the films rejected by the censor over the past 20 years. The plays on offer in Moscow's theatres have become a little more adventurous, and members of the Politburo have made a habit of going to see them. Yevgeni Yevtushenko, the country's part-timed, part-rebel poet, has made — and been officially reported as making — outspoken remarks about artistic distortions of the Soviet past. Respected, but latterly silent members of the Soviet intelligentsia have started to lend their signatures to official cultural campaigns again. A new pride is being encouraged in the Russian past; and the Soviet press has begun, tentatively, to mention the unmentionable: the damage done to the Russian cultural heritage in the early and not so early years of Soviet power.

As yet it is unclear whether these developments are really indicative of a new latitude on the part of the authorities or whether they merely reflect hopeful lobbying on the part of different artistic groups at a time of official culture minister — whose sole qualifications for guiding artists along the byways of the ideologically permissible was a degree in chemical engineering and an (almost) impeccable Communist Party record — suggests some involvement from the top.

More than anything, however, it suggests a measure of despair. The combined effect of Messrs Demichev, Brezhnev and Chernenko at the cultural helm for so many years has had a stultifying effect on Soviet artists in every field. Many of the most talented and innovative (the film director Tarkovsky, the theatre director Lyubimov, the writer Voinovich, to name but a few) have been driven to seek artistic stimulus in emigration, often at great personal cost.

Recently, the treatment of Andrei Gavrilov, a young and gifted pianist who has been permitted to spend long periods abroad without being deprived of his citizenship (itself a departure), suggests both the level of official concern about the drain of young talent and the seeds of a compromise.

For musicians and dancers, even for some film and theatre producers, such a compromise might work. But for writers and painters whose work is — by virtue of Soviet censorship — intrinsically political, such a compromise brings scant benefit. If they are to flourish, a change of official attitudes is required — and one more radical than anything likely to be countenanced at this week's congress of writers.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### One point unresolved on Polaris

From the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Social Democrats for Defence and Disarmament

Sir, We write as members of the committee which drafted the SDP's defence and disarmament policy. In view of recent conflicting reports, we would like to state categorically that Dr David Owen has precisely and correctly represented SDP policy on Polaris and the need to replace it.

There should be no doubt of the intentions of the drafting committee and of the Council for Social Democracy, which firmly adopted our report at Torquay last year. We are committed to retaining Britain's nuclear deterrent, and that requires us to prepare now for the ultimate replacement of our obsolescent Polaris force. We could only halt such preparations, as we said in our report, if disarmament negotiations progress dramatically to a successful conclusion before our preparations were completed. In the absence of such progress, we said, replacement of Polaris would of necessity proceed.

The only question we left unresolved was the details of the system which should replace Polaris. Our discussions continue on this point. We are opposed to Trident, as are our Liberal allies, but we recognise that the Government may have acquired a significant amount of expensive Trident hardware by the time of the general election.

Committed as we are to retaining a minimum nuclear deterrent, it would be irresponsible of us to settle inflexibly on one replacement system until we can see

precisely what adaptations can be made to the equipment acquired at great cost by the outgoing government.

For example, if the present Government produced a Trident submarine before losing office to us, we would wish to adapt it for use with a system in line with our requirements — perhaps of a sea-launched cruise variety — rather than continue the Trident programme or write off billions of pounds.

Dr Owen is familiar, to say the least, with our deliberations. He was represented at all our meetings. As Chairman of the SDP's policy committee, to which we reported, and as leader of the SDP he is ultimately responsible for presenting the party's policy. Other leading figures in the party may express their opinions, but it is quite wrong for them to present themselves as custodians of SDP policy. That role is duly Dr Owen's and, on this issue, he has carried it out clearly and correctly. We do not doubt he will continue to receive the support of nearly all SDP members.

We hope we shall be able to convince the majority of our Liberal colleagues to share our policy objectives. Many already do.

Yours faithfully,  
ALAN LEE WILLIAMS,  
Chairman,  
DOUGLAS EDEN, Vice-Chairman,  
Social Democrats for Defence and Disarmament,  
11 Serpentine Road,  
Sevenoaks, Kent,  
June 17.

### Part-time education

From the Secretary of the National Advisory Body for Public Sector Higher Education

Sir, Dr Burlin (Rector of the Polytechnic of Central London) alleges (June 13) that despite our "rhetoric" (his word) about the importance of part-time higher education, we are failing properly to fund it; and he refers in particular to part-time evening degree courses. A detailed analysis of the problem would take too much of your space, so may I content myself with a few brief points in reply?

First, and this really is quite fundamental, we do not advise on the allocation of funds to courses, but on their allocation to institutions as a whole.

Second, in building up those allocations on the basis of a national model we do use the figure of 20 per cent which Dr Burlin criticises.

Third, despite his assertion, there is no reliable evidence on a national basis that an evening degree course student costs 60 per cent of a full-timer.

Fourth, there is, however, reliable evidence that not all evening only courses of higher education cost even roughly the same.

Fifth, for this and other reasons we set up a sub-committee to look at the problem and to identify a solution; it was chaired by one of Dr Burlin's fellow polytechnic directors. That sub-committee recommended that — although the evidence for differing costs was clear — there was no readily identifiable overall national funding model that would solve the problem equitably without excessive and unjustified complexity.

Sixth, we have continued to remind institutions that their financial allocations are to be seen as a whole ("block grant"); no national funding model, even if it were to deal differently with part-time work, could possibly replicate the circumstances of, or be

appropriate for resource distribution within a single college.

And finally, seventh, we are satisfied that we are undervaluing part-time work generally in our allocation methodology. To revalue it within the present resource constraints would necessitate "under-funding" full-time work — and our current proposals envisage a cut in full-time places nearly twice that identified in part-time work.

We need more money for public sector higher education, both generally and to revalue part-time work. This is not the first year in which we have asked the Secretary of State for more resources for the latter purpose; he is not yet convinced that there is a need.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN S. BEVAN, Secretary,  
National Advisory Body for Public Sector Higher Education,  
Metropolis House,  
22 Percy Street, W1,  
June 17.

### Student loans

From Mr H. G. Hamey  
Sir, In 1934, having won a state scholarship, I approached Sheffield Education Committee, asking for a grant of the balance needed to study at Cambridge. My widowed mother declared her annual income at £169. We were declared too rich for a grant.

When I refused to make my mother destitute, the committee granted me half the sum and lent me the other half.

The loan was interest-free and repayable at not less than £2 per month, commencing six months after I secured permanent employment (if I did).

I thought it cheap at the price. I still do. It took almost six years to repay the loan. I would have paid £2 per month for the rest of my life for the privilege.

Yours sincerely,  
H.G. HAMEY,  
57 Grove Park,  
Knaresborough, Cheshire.

event exaggerates the good, or bad behaviour of those televised.

A scout troop will be more likely march in step: a picket will shout and demonstrate more vociferously — playing to the gallery is the most human of our many failings. That South Africa wishes to curtail these opportunities just now is plain common-sense.

Yours etc,  
PETER VANNECK,  
P.O. Box 560,  
London SW7 3LX,  
June 18.

### Falkland mines

From Dr A. W. Rudge  
Sir, Following publication of your article, "Falkland minefield cleaned up", by Rodney Cowton, on June 12, I write to clarify a number of points.

Firstly, the technical performance of the pulsed or ground-probing radar has far exceeded the original technical goals. Reliable detection of all types of mines found in the Falkland Islands has been demonstrated in a wide variety of field conditions. The full design data required to build operational mine-detection systems has been generated, but no units built. The cost is significant because of the need for 100 per cent safety, but any Falkland

Island mine-detection clearance scheme would be expensive.

From several points of view the abandonment of the project is disappointing. Its thrust has given the UK a world lead in this very new technology. We will attempt to maintain that lead over strong Japanese competition, through the many other applications where the ability to "see" a buried or hidden object is important.

We now have the technology to detect the plastic mines; it is unfortunate that it is not to be exploited.

Yours faithfully,  
ALAN RUDGE,  
Managing Director,  
ERA Technology Ltd,  
Clevehead, Surrey.

### Prison discipline

From Lord Donaldson of Kingsbridge

Sir, Your Home Affairs Correspondent suggests (June 10) that opposition from prison boards of visitors "is threatening to undermine plans... for a fundamental change in the way inmates are disciplined". I very much hope it is not allowed to do so.

Both the Jellicoe committee in the seventies and the Prior committee last year have come out unanimously in favour of removing the prison boards of visitors' powers of adjudication so that they can carry out most thoroughly their duties of protect-

ing the rights of prisoners under their care and their right of direct access to the Home Secretary if necessary.

Since the publication of the Prior report we have seen the emergence of a strong and growing consensus in favour of a new independent disciplinary tribunal to replace adjudications by boards of visitors. This consensus now includes the representative organisations of prison governors, prison officers and magistrates, as well as reform groups.

The Parliamentary All-Party Penal Affairs Group is fully persuaded of the case. We consider that boards of visitors' adjudicatory functions reduce

### Decline of state school cricket

From Mr David Green

Sir, While our television screens present us with a surfeit of international sport, perhaps it is appropriate to consider the state of some of our traditional sports at school level.

I recently helped to prepare a report on the state of school cricket in Middlesex which, I feel, has implications for this game at all levels.

Only eight secondary schools affiliated to our schools association play regular inter-school cricket and at primary school level only two boroughs have entered our inter-borough competition. Many of our excellent club colts sections are struggling to cope with the numbers of boys wishing to play and desperately need more coaches and helpers.

However, in the inner-London boroughs there are so few colts sections that many boys have no opportunity to play at all. Representative sides are now selected from fewer and fewer schools, usually in the private sector, and gifted players in state schools, cannot develop their potential. Indeed, the current England captain's introduction to cricket was dependent upon a keen schoolmaster, who encouraged him until he joined the colts section at Brondesbury club.

This decline of state school cricket has several causes: cricket requires expensive equipment and expertly maintained facilities at a time of financial stringency in schools; fewer and fewer schools have the staff able to devote the time to run matches and recent industrial action has resulted in schoolmasters and their pupils finding other ways of spending their free time; and political pressure against sports that are competitive only encourage boys and are elitist in forcing headmasters and physical education staff to abandon inter-school cricket.

Such a weakening of grassroots youth cricket — and the situation is no better for soccer or rugby football — must eventually have consequences for our senior club, county and even national sides. If we are to maintain interest and standards in traditional sports such as cricket, we must confront the alarming implications of the current situation.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID GREEN (Chairman,  
Cricket Committee, Middlesex  
Colts Association),  
17 Stanley Road,  
Northwood, Middlesex.

### A common lot

From the Reverend John Simpson  
Sir, The parish of Curry Rivel has a name problem. The rector, curate, lay reader and both churchwardens are called John. It was suggested that they could be named John the Apostle, John the Elder, John the Presbyter, John the Evangelist and John the Divine. The advice of the retired priest was sought — another John.

It was thought that, on such a delicate theological point, an appeal might have to be made to higher authority. This could complicate the issue. The Bishop is also called John. A thoroughly confused JOHN SIMPSON,  
The Vicarage,  
Curry Rivel,  
Nr Langport, Somerset.

### Threat to Lewes

From Mr Robert Davenport  
Sir, Professor Bell's letter in today's Times (June 9) highlights the problems caused when the heavy hand of a county council fumbles with local issues. Passing below Lewes on the south side it is possible to appreciate the far South Downs and a fine view of this historic town.

The only flaw in the timeless profile of old houses clustered around the castle is the lurking concrete and glass bulk of the East Sussex County Council offices. Yours faithfully,  
ROBERT DAVENPORT,  
3 Church Lane Cottages,  
Ripe, Lewes, East Sussex.

Not on all fours

From Mr P. J. Clark  
Sir, The Government may like to heed its own advice regarding the paying of small companies promptly. I have, this morning, received the final payment for prescriptions which were dispensed during the month of March. Part of the payment for the cost of drugs was withheld because of discounts that I received from my wholesalers. I earned these discounts by setting my account within 30 days!

Yours faithfully,  
PETER J. CLARK,  
Managing Director,  
G. F. Bevis & Co.,  
The Eastgate Pharmacy,  
15 Eastgate Square, West Sussex,  
June 20.

prisoners' confidence in boards as a channel for their grievances and that only a conspicuously independent body of a judicial nature should be empowered to deprive prisoners of substantial amounts of remission.

People do not like their functions to be reduced, but in this case the boards will gain greater strength in carrying out their remaining, and indeed, more important, functions through their clearly seen separation from the disciplinary duties of a tribunal.

Yours etc,  
DONALDSON,  
House of Lords,  
June 13.

## ON THIS DAY

JUNE 24 1807

The first theatrical notices to criticize productions in contrast to the practice of publishing "puffs" were in the News (1805) for which Leigh Hunt wrote candid reviews. The Times soon followed suit, engaging Byron Fields as a dramatic critic. Among the recipients of the scathing comments below was Charles Lamb, whose devotees will remember that when Mr. H. was hanged, he was so afraid of being known as the author that he joined the audience in its disapprobation.

### THEATRES.

Review of the Past Season.

A retrospect of the drama of the Past Season is not attended with the greatest delight... Of new plays we have had enough, but of good ones very few. The time was when the dramatic muse held an even mirror up to nature; but now, if she holds up any mirror at all, it is composed of a concave lens, that presents us with either a heterogeneous blank, or a hideous distortion of feature. The consequence of this is, that the managers are obliged to have recourse to frequent revivals, and are content, when CHERRY or REYNOLDS fail, to see what SHAKESPEARE or MURPHY can do; not, however, that Mr. KEMBLE's revivals of SHAKESPEARE are inelegant and inept, or that the Drury Lane performances of MURPHY's comedies are unimpeachable and undelightful; but that the town ought not to be compelled "to see what they have seen," and that an age, for whom so much has been done by its predecessors, ought to be compelled to do something for its successors.

The best production of the season is undoubtedly Mr. TOLIN's drama, or rather poem (for it is from its descriptions, rather than its dialogue, that it is celebrated) of the Curfew. But the very excellencies which have increased the delights of a perusal of this play, have diminished those of its performance: we read good poetry at home; at the theatre we expect to see good characters...

The next piece in the order of merit, is Mr. LEWIS's *Adelphi*, a tragedy which we regret was not brought forward earlier in the season, and under other circumstances, than for the benefit of a performer. It is no great compliment to the taste of a Manager, to say that Mr. LEWIS's melodrama was accepted by the theatre, and his tragedy by an individual. We have so recently been able, from the previous publication of *Adelphi*, to express a more digested opinion of its merits than is generally common with the time allowed for our criticisms, that we are now compelled to turn to that muse, which is in general the more attractive; but to which, if Sir JOSHUA REYNOLDS had painted from the drama of the nineteenth century, he would not have made GARRICK turn with quite so fascinated an eye.

The day is certainly over when a prologue of Dr. JOHNSON's used to usher in a new piece of GOLDSMITH's, which was to be followed by a Farce of GARRICK's. Managers' doors seem shut to almost every comic writer but MORTON, REYNOLDS, DIBDIN and CHERRY; the last of whom, as by far the greatest genius, has the range of both Theatres. Neither Mr. REYNOLDS nor Mr. DIBDIN, however, have this year indulged us with their usual comedy; the former having found his level in a wretched farce and a worse melodrama, and the latter having descended to a pantomime. Of these productions, the very names are not worth recording, those of the first and second being utterly forgotten, and that of the third too well remembered. But of Mr. MORTON's comedy, as the only successful one of the year, we shall say a few words. *Yours and Country* is to be praised only from a little felicity of incident; its language is laboured and puerile, its character shadowy, its humour slender, and its wit a nonentity. Its loud interjection of fashionable vices, and its general good tendency, are certainly some eulogy on its author... Drury-Lane theatre has been very unfortunate, or rather injudicious, in its choice of comedies for the last season. No less than three have received the town's just condemnation: Mr. HOLCROFT's *Vindictive Man*, Miss LEE's *Assignment*, and Mr. CHERRY's *Day in London*. The first of these is a kind of sequel to the same author's *Road to Ruin*, a play which is kept alive at the other house solely by the vivacity of Mr. LEWIS, whose character of *Goldfinch* was, in the *Vindictive Man*, transferred to Mr. DECAMP and died accordingly. So deplorably indeed do most of a modern author's comedies hang upon the looks of some actor, that the former may now-a-days say to the latter, what a modest poet said to his mistress of nothing more than "the world."

"My play depend upon your eye, and when you frown upon it, die..."

Shunted

From Dr W. J. Reilly  
Sir, My old friend, Dr Black, from Cheshire (June 16) may be interested to hear of one GP who, when a particularly troublesome patient moves away, always writes *Caveat emptor* in large letters on their medical record envelope before forwarding it to the family doctor who has unwittingly taken them on his list; and of another who, in similar circumstances, invariably makes a last entry in their notes thus, *Hamlet*, act 1, scene 1, line 7, *Reflicto*, much thanks.

Yours faithfully,  
W. J. REILLY,  
Brefni House,  
Horseshay,  
Telford, Shropshire,  
June 17.







## THE ARTS

### Television Still no answers

In another of their dramatizations, *Horizon* (BBC2) investigated baby battering. During a long two-part interview, a real therapist faced two actors who played the parents of a child with a broken arm. While the unscripted enterprise took on an exhausting power, it was hard to grasp what exactly the producers (Hilary Henson and Penny Charns) intended. Beyond allowing us dramatically to understand the terrible circumstances, *Battered Baby* seemed a beautifully acted piece of inconclusive indulgence. To understand in this case was to forgive rather than know how to prevent.

The first part was fairly silent. Speaking in the middle-class riddles of psychoanalysis, Dr Danya Glaser asked all sorts of innocent questions which were met by the parents' monosyllabic refusal to admit striking their child. In this game of lowered eyes and slanted mouths, words were squeezed out of them like air popping in clay.

Plain, animated talking was reserved for the second part, when it became clear that the cat-like husband could not be entrusted with a teddy bear (and that we had to treat children as we ourselves were treated). Particularly good was Gillian Hanna's rendering of the crabby mother-in-law.

In another first rate edition, *Open the Box* (Channel 4) looked at how children might be battered by what they see on television. By the age of 16, said one parent, his child would have watched 16,000 murders and not one complete making love. Though not enough children were interviewed, Mike Dibb's programme, finely edited by Ray Franklin in a way that mimicked its subject-matter, covered a lot of very watchable ground.

The series has kept a commendable detachment from its own belly-button (television screens are filmed showing the relevant programmes rather than edited into), and last night's edition sensibly chose to highlight the inconsistencies of the current debate. MPs threatening to stanch the diet of obscenity and violence were gently reminded that the Bible, *Squidrel Nerdie* and the Home Secretary's thriller would be banned. On the other hand, a special-effects man who argued that no one believed in the violent was also exposed. Genuinely moved by a stunting accident, the man added, as if it was of secondary importance, "and also he died".

The responsibilities of public service broadcasters were examined in *Are You Being Served* (Well?) (Channel 4). This worthy waste of time was presented by a girl who resembled a beetle trying to climb out of a pink gel. Polytechnic lecturers complained about the closeness of top broadcasters to Whitehall. Philip Whitehead told us we were threatened with the extinction of taste and Brenda Maddox said we should be far more worried about the telephone service.

Nicholas  
Shakespeare

The widow of the eminent scientist Sir Julian Huxley has a touching and remarkable tale to tell in her autobiography, *Leaves of the Tulip Tree*. Caroline Moorehead visited Lady Huxley just before publication.

### The gift of being loyal with humour if not fidelity

When Juliette Huxley was 19 she was sent to London from Switzerland to improve her English. It was 1916. She crossed by train through Europe at war. Chance, in the shape of an employment agency, led her to Garsington Manor, where she was taken on by Lady Ottoline Morrell to teach her eight-year-old daughter. It was there that she met the Huxley brothers, and quite soon afterwards married Julian. He was ten years older, brilliant, powerful, prone to nervous breakdowns and with a view of marriage very few women would have been able to accept. She has just brought out her autobiography, *Leaves of the Tulip Tree*, an account of their life together, a generous, touching tribute to a man about whom she nevertheless writes, of the time just before they married, "I cannot think why I did not run away, run for miles, but remained spellbound under the flood of his words, like a rabbit bewitched by a stool".

The book closes with Sir Julian's death, early in 1975. Juliette Huxley spent the months that followed sorting through the great archive of letters and papers, sending over much of what was there to Rice University in Texas, where he had been Professor of Biology from 1913 to 1916, and with the £10,000 she received for the letters she started a memorial fellowship in his name at Balliol College. There had been talk of other people publishing collections of his letters; she considered the idea carefully. Then she realized that they would never convey anything of her own life with Huxley, and that this was something that she could only do herself. It has

taken her, on and off, seven years. The author who emerges is full of dignity, funny, constantly worrying how to be as clever as the Huxleys, as elegant as the smart Frenchwomen at Unesco, as competent, erudite, talented as the world she observed around her. Juliette Huxley had been right to be apprehensive, in those weeks before her marriage. Her life with Huxley was not easy. He was not a faithful husband and regarded her attachment to fidelity as a base, rather belittling sentiment. Neither in her book, nor talking, does she try to pretend that it did not matter, referring to his affairs as "figues" and "amourettes" but adding that she is now worried about being too candid. "I feel atrocious pangs of guilt. I feel very naive. I wanted to be honest, but there are times when you should dress things up".

Of their relationship, however, she speaks with appreciation and fondness; it is for reader and listener to form their own views. "We built a life", she says. "We were loyal to each other but not faithful. Especially after we stayed with H.G. Wells and saw how he had his mistress. That appealed to Julian. He got what he wanted, at a cost. I wasn't keen at first. But when it became irrevocable" — Juliette Huxley's English is perfect, but occasionally a French "y" holds her up — "irrevocable, then, well, I found it all right".

There were, of course, very good times. In 1929 the Huxleys went to Africa, on a long safari on foot, looking but not shooting; and there were several more visits to the animals. These were both spur to

### Galleries

## Unseasonably rich and dramatic

Baroque III, 1620-1700  
Matthiesen

From Claude to Géricault  
Agnew

William Blake and His Contemporaries  
Wildenstein

It is one of life's little mysteries that, as soon as the summer or something vaguely approaching it — sets in, commercial galleries all over the West End instantly bring out their heaviest-duty Old Masters for our (perhaps slightly bilious) delectation. Possibly it has something to do with the hoped-for influx of rich Americans waving cheque-books, but it cannot be entirely that alone, since June is very frequently the time for normally selling galleries to do their bit for some worthy cause by putting on rather grand loan exhibitions, catalogues sold in aid of...

Indeed, sometimes the two purposes can be ingeniously combined: Matthiesen's Baroque III (until August 15), completely a selling show, is also in aid of the National Art Collections Fund, and Ag-

new's French paintings From Claude to Géricault (until July 25), mostly a selling show, is in aid of the Friends of the Courtauld Institute while Wildenstein's William Blake and His Contemporaries (until July 11), being entirely on loan from the Fitzwilliam, is naturally in aid of the Friends of the Fitzwilliam Museum.

Even apart from the possibility of our doing a good deed by buying a catalogue (lively, informative and wearing their sometimes considerable learning lightly in each case), it would be ungracious of us to look so many gift-horses in the mouth. Possibly winter coyness is a better circumstance for looking at rich, dramatic and primarily dark-toned painting like that in the Matthiesen show, but at least Matthiesen's luxuriously old-world (though wholly modern) top-floor gallery has the advantage of a balanced temperature all the year round and as near as may be ideal lighting to view Old Masters.

The latest call from apparently inexhaustible supplies of baroque paintings in private collections has produced some rather extraordinary finds, though not always, inevitably, by the most famous masters. This year the top gallery is dominated by two physically large and dramatically overpowering paintings, Mattia Preti's *David Playing the Harp before Saul* and Bernardino Mei's *Alexander the Great and the Fates*. Both of them seem

to date from the later 1660s, and both are certainly packed with iconographical significance for any who care to read. Some of it rather obscure, to be sure, but, for instance, are there only two Fates in the Mei (unless the third is consigned to an insignificant role in the background), as well as two Alexanders struggling with their destiny, aided by Fame up above and bewailed by Time down below? The Preti is a little more direct, but boldly diversified by a scattering of miscellaneous characters peeping into the composition or gazing out from it while the two named characters concentrate with passionate intensity on the business at hand.

With these two around it is difficult to pay so much attention to Artimisia Gentileschi's *The Death of Cleopatra*, heavy-limbed and still sensual after the asp has done its work. But downstairs the eye cannot but be drawn by Michael Sweerts's *Mars Destroying the Arms*, a swarthy gentleman in armour chopping up statues and stomping on musical instruments as well as slashing paintings — the image is so odd, and only rendered odder by the incidental information that the figure of Mars in his iconoclastic fury appears to be a self-portrait of Sweerts. Make of that what you will.

All these paintings seem to call for slow and heavy consideration: not at all the fashion-



Obscure and fascinating iconographical significance in Bernardino Mei's *Alexander the Great and the Fates*

able informality portrayed in Saint-Aubin's charming water-colour *Le Salon de 1755 au Louvre* (pace the Goncourts, who describe it in detail but say it is the Salon of 1781) in the show at Agnew. But then, if we may judge from this and some other pictures in the show, including de Troy's *La Lecture de Molière*, the French seem to have long cultivated the special skill of enjoying art while keeping the tone light. And indeed most of the French pictures here manage to fit admirably with the desiderata of summer viewing: complexes they may be,

mais pas compliqués. There is, for example, at the more imposing end of the scale, a beautiful Claude, *Paysage avec berger et bergères jouant du flageolet*, which has only recently been recognized as such, after cleaning. There are a couple of unusually graceful, almost playful Vermeers of Naples seen across water, with lively groups of foreground figures. And there is a particularly delectable Ingres drawing of two little girls, *Les Soeurs Montagu*, in Rome, dressed in their best, all crisp charm and not a hint of sentimentality. Since the Wildenstein show

is made up entirely of loans from the Fitzwilliam, one might suspect that it had little to offer except to those who have not yet found their way to Cambridge in search of Blake. But in fact all the works here can seldom if ever have been shown together in Cambridge, and it does throw new light on Blake, not only to see him in the context of contemporaries like Flaxman, Fuseli and Romney (the Romney of the visionary drawings rather than the relatively staid portraitist), but also to see as many as three radically differently coloured versions of one

image from the illuminated books, as well as a variety of unique proofs and such. There are also original water-colours and paintings in tempera — all emphasizing Blake's uniqueness by juxtaposing him with as like as his period could offer. But, if you are searching for a parallel or a sensible comparison, it is to the future you must look, not to Blake's own time and not to any past except that of his own imagination.

John Russell  
Taylor

### St Magnus Festival

## Characteristically brisk Beethoven

RPO/Davies  
Phoenix Cinema,  
Kirkwall

On Sunday, following the previous night's televised premiere of Maxwell Davies' Violin Concerto in St Magnus Cathedral, the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, moved across to the Phoenix, and one rather wished the cameras had

been there again to catch the sight of them playing for Davies, all in white dinner jackets, with behind them a dusty, dusty furrow of a lamé curtain in a run-down 1950s cinema.

The programme began with Davies' *Jiminy the Postie*, fittingly dedicated to Ian Barr, the chairman of the Scottish Postal Board whose sponsorship has greatly strengthened the St Magnus Festival in recent years. There had been a

widespread assumption that the new piece would turn out to be Davies' obeisance to the tradition of the British comedy overture, but in fact it was quite straight in its ram-bustiousness and fierce changeability of colour, battling through thematic transformations to a Scottish folk-song on solo flute. The tradition to which it belongs is rather that of the "Enigma" Variations, as a character-study of the Hoy postman.

Davies' account afterwards of Beethoven's Seventh Symphony was more in his own character, with incisive staccato, a notable clarity of counterpoint and insistence on repeated motifs (particularly in the scherzo), powerfully wrought crescendos and strict, brisk tempos.

It was a neat, crisp and somewhat disturbing dissection.

Paul Griffiths

### Theatre in Scotland

Burning Love  
Traverse, Edinburgh

A year ago the Traverse gave Franz Xaver Kroetz's *Through the Leaves* its British premiere — a brutal, sad portrayal of the emptiness in and around a relationship. Again receiving its first British performance, *Burning Love* by his fellow German playwright Fitzgerald Kusz tackles a similar area, although this time the "lovers" are 30-years younger.

Kusz's play is not so complex, nor his analysis of human behaviour quite so deep or deeply saddening, but his writing is also imbued with a bleak anger about people

trapped into stereotypes and stereotyped attitudes by modern society.

In a series of brief encounters, freeze-framed into snapshots that the girl, Angie, pins on to her wall, Kusz shows us a summer romance between two teenagers both in dead-end jobs. Their desire to discover common ground cannot bridge the gulf of misunderstanding between them, as they run aground, partly on already entrenched preconceived ideas about relationships, enforced by peer pressure, partly on class difference.

Kusz reworks the well known theme, middle-class girl meets working-class guy, transposed with complete

credibility here to western Scotland in Anthony Vivis and Tinch Minter's translation. The greatest stumbling-block however is their conflicting experience of adolescent crisis — she struggling with an imagined abyss of speculated fears, he looking for a means of self-assertion.

In the end the real tragedy is not what happens to the relationship but the degree to which what happens seems inevitable. Though they both kick against society, the future of the two characters seems almost pre-ordained — Leonard O'Malley and Tracey Spence handle nicely a scene where, as they mimic their respective parents, the voices and attitudes they adopt sud-

denly fit them all too well. Hamish Glen's production, though it lacks edge at the start, gathers momentum towards the twist at the end; and, while Kusz leaves some of the social issues he introduces rather lamely on the surface (such as teenage drinking and work experience), he evokes the pressure-cooker atmosphere painfully well.

Sarah Hemming

● The Royal Academy of Arts is to present an exhibition of 300 pages from 45 of Picasso's sketchbooks, from September 11 to November 23. It will be the first time they have ever been shown in public in Europe.



Photograph of Lady Huxley by Dick Bown Stearns

denly fit them all too well. Behind is an ideal garden: Juliette Huxley has gardened since Garsington days. Huxley never joined in, but liked, she says, to sit in the gardens she made. What there has not been, until now, is writing, other than a book on their first journey to look at animals. *Wild Lives of Africa*, written nearly 50 years ago. She says that this was a mistake and that she should have kept writing: "If I had had the sense of a peanut, I would have written, written and written. And now? There are many things I want to say. But do you know, my dear, how old I am?" Juliette Huxley, remarkably, will be 90 in December. She is smartly dressed, with very blue and very round eyes; her manner is energetic

and she speaks extremely quickly. "What should I write now? I think I should just wind up my life, like I wound up my book." This is said cheerfully. What really preoccupies her is publication day. "I'm really rather frightened."

"Could I live my life again", she observes in the last paragraph of her book. "I would set myself to learn the art of paying attention." The words are characteristically self-deprecating; the strongest thing that comes across, in her book as in her talk, is a sense of enquiry, a note of friendly curiosity about other people and why they are as they are.

● *Leaves of the Tulip Tree* is published by John Murray at £12.95.

### Concerts Music Projects Almeida Theatre

Jo Kondo, whose music shared this Almeida Festival concert with that of a Japanese colleague from an altogether older generation, Yorisune Matsudaira, is clearly a composer of intriguing originality. He seemed to have invented a special new language for each of his four pieces that we heard on Sunday (all of them receiving their British premieres). But each was also constructed elegantly, and each carefully explained its own, usually simple, premises. The effect was like being taught how to listen all over again.

Kondo, now in his late thirties, is obviously both a sensitive and a gently humorous man. The latter quality was especially evident in *Walk* (1976) for flute (Nancy Ruffer) and piano (Andrew Ball), and not only because of the immense length of the part from which Miss Ruffer had to play. *Walk* was indeed a promenade for two, the joke of it being that sometimes the performers were out of step, sometimes in step. Quite apart from its endearing whimsy, significantly its momentum was far more compelling than that generated by the systemized phrase-changing of Reich and his minimalist disciples. *Falling* (1973) was another

game about near co-ordination, this time in the follow-my-leader tradition. An electric piano did the leading; two violas and a double bass did the following, aiming at unison or double octaves with each other and the piano. The gaps between these coincidences were, however, filled with weird glissandos, producing a memorably individual texture, predominantly dark and eternally fascinating.

For *When Wind Blew* (1975), scored for string quintet, wind quintet, piano and two cowbells, Kondo's inspiration was evidently Webern's *Klangfarbenmelodie*. In Kondo's hands the device yielded something astonishingly mellow, like a nostalgic pastoral; and the work, moreover, ended overtly in C minor. By 1984, when Kondo wrote *Huntswall*, his leaning towards lush textures had apparently gone several stages further. In this work a similar ensemble, with a trumpet and two trombones replacing the cowbells, created a slow-moving chorale whose overlapping, sensual harmonies simply left one speechless with admiration. It certainly provided a sharp contrast with Matsudaira's complex, though in its way equally impressive, counterpoint. Music Projects/London played marvellously.

Stephen Pettitt

André Watts  
Festival Hall

André Watts' contribution to the André Previn Music Festival — a hugely challenging all-Liszt programme — was one of those intriguing recitals where even the less satisfying things were somehow instructive as to the extreme range of Liszt's

creative abilities, to which (we can perhaps guess) no pianist since the composer himself has been able to respond in absolutely every department. Not that technical shortcomings had anything to do with it: Watts must have one of the most sensationally dextrous sets of fingers on the planet. The speed of the double-octave passages in the B minor Sonata, which occupied most of the first half, would have satisfied any pianist, as would the crystalline, light-fingered clarity of the torrents of passagework. Nor was Watts' playing superficial: the transition to the Sonata's slow central section was beautifully achieved, and the section itself unfolded in spacious, reflective paragraphs of limpid piano tone. The problem was a structural one. Perhaps a wholly convincing account of Liszt's massive single movement is unattainable; but, if it is not feasible to channel the tidal forces at work in the music into any kind of coherent synthesis, there should at least be some sense that those forces are actually there. Watts did not really present us with more than a loosely-assembled sequence of events.

Malcolm Hayes

### Rock Level 42 Glastonbury Festival

After three days of sunshine, stimulants and squalor, it was hardly surprising that this annual gathering of the alternative clans had lapsed into a mild torpor by the time Level 42 made their appearance towards the end of Sunday night. But those who had not shuffled on to begin the long hitch-hike home were amply rewarded by an energetic and dextrous performance by the quartet whose melodic tensile jazz-funk music has found its way into the single, albums, dance, disco, soul, club, CD and probably one or two other charts this year.

Although they came to prominence during the brief era of glamorous pop stars like Boy George and Duran Duran, Level 42 had never had much in the way of looks or image to help them, and their show depended on the old virtues of musicianship and hard work.

On the Glastonbury stage — a converted corrugated, pyramid-shaped structure, normally used by its owner as a cattle shed — they were aided by a barrage of chaotic laser effects

as they hammered through a selection that defied the audience to remain indifferent. The show was dominated by Mark King's swifly pummelled bass-playing and Phil Gould's sharp, clear drumming, and the attack was rooted in surging, insistent rhythmic structures that these two combine and produce.

The guitarist, Boon Gould, occasionally plays quicksilver jazz-funk solo, as in "Micro Kids", but more often confines himself to mixing in with the rhythm, and it was left to Mike Lindup's keyboard, and the combined vocals of him and King, to colour the pulsing beat with melodies and harmonies of a contrasting gentleness. They ranged, within this formula, from the relaxed funk of "Turn it On" and the ballad "Leaving Me Now" to the bullish dance-floor pump of "The Chant Has Begun". As they roared to a finish with "Lessons in Love" it seemed for some tired souls in the audience that the evening had just begun.

David Sinclair

### AMSTRAD Users

The Cherry Guide to word processing on the PCW 6250/6312 gives easy-to-use instructions and clear explanations which save much time and puzzlement for both learners and experienced users. One of the simplest and best helping hands. Price: £4.95 but write for details. Cherry Guides (71, Broadwood, Linton, Devon, PL16 0ER).







STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share  
1338.2 (-15.2)  
FT-SE 100  
1822.8 (-14.4)  
Bargains  
23889  
USM (Datastream)  
123.4 (+0.36)  
THE POUND  
US Dollar  
1.5025 (+0.0010)  
W German mark  
3.3731 (+0.0082)  
Trade-weighted  
75.7 (same)

Ibstock in cash call

Ibstock Johnson, the brick manufacturer, is shorting up its finances by asking shareholders for £2.3 million. They are being asked to subscribe for a one-for-four rights issue at 148p.

The company says that it has spent £37 million on new plant in Britain and the United States in the past three years and that it needs the cash to trim its borrowings. It adds that prospects look good, with production and sales ahead of the same time last year. The shares were 10p lower at 168p.

Shepard sold

Hanson Industries is selling Shepard Clothing, a US manufacturer of men's suits, to a group of investors, which includes the management, for £22 million. Last year the business made pretax profits of £5.7 million on turnover of £30 million. Hanson says the sale now takes it out of the volatile men's clothing business.

Dividend up

Brown & Tawse, the distribution company, lifted profits from £5.36 million to £5.73 million before tax in the year to March 31. Turnover was up from £91.1 million to £103 million and the final dividend is 5p, up from 4.5p.

Avana up

The food manufacturer Avana Group reported pretax profits of £20.2 million for the year to March 29, 1986, up 3.6 per cent on last year. Turnover was up 4.6 per cent and the dividend was increased by 0.75p to 12p.

Opec optimism

Sheikh Ahmed Yamani, the Saudi Arabian oil minister, said yesterday he expected progress on Opec agreement for production sharing when the organization meets in Yugoslavia starting tomorrow.

Profits jump

Iltingworth, Morris, the largest wool manufacturer of its kind in Europe, made pretax profits of £6.18 million in the year to the end of March - up from £4.14 million.

EEC prices up

Consumer prices in the EEC rose by 0.2 per cent last month compared with April and were up by 3.3 per cent on May, 1985, according to Eurostat, the EEC's statistical agency.

Hawley buy

Mr Michael Ashcroft's Hawley Group is mopping up the Home Counties Cleaning Group in a deal worth £4.8 million.

Rotaflex 'No'

Rotaflex yesterday rejected Emess Lighting's increased and final £54 million bid as wholly inadequate.

Bedford to axe 1,700 jobs after losses rise to £73m

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Bedford Trucks, the British commercial vehicle arm of General Motors, yesterday announced 1985 losses of £73 million and said that 1,700 jobs would be axed at the plants at Luton and Dunstable in Bedfordshire.

The job losses were expected after the collapse of merger talks between GM and the state-controlled Land Rover-Leyland earlier this year. The American company said that in the face of widespread overcapacity in the European truck and van industry, some rationalization was inevitable.

GM said it had been re-evaluating the position of the Dunstable truck plant since the talks with the Government broke down three months ago.

The deal collapsed when the Government was unable to devise a formula which would satisfy MPs that Land Rover would remain in British hands. Even if the deal had been successful, it is likely that Bedford, whose products and factories are older than Leyland's, would have been forced to shut capacity and lay off workers.

Bedford said yesterday it hoped all the redundancies could be achieved by early retirement or voluntary separation. They will fall mainly at Dunstable, where 520 jobs will go, and at the Luton van plant, which is to lose 660 jobs. A further 340 will be lost at the Luton press shops.

The redundancies will reduce the combined Luton and

Dunstable workforce of 7,200 to about 5,500.

Bedford hopes that the job losses will be achieved relatively painlessly because more than 2,000 of its workers are aged 55 or over. Under the company's voluntary separation scheme, a 55-year-old with 25 years' service will receive 75 weeks' pay and a 30-year-old with 12 years' service gets 34 weeks' pay. The average wage at Bedford is £130 a week.

Mr Eric Fountain, GM's director of public affairs, said: "Bedford Trucks is losing money at the rate of about £1.5 million a week and immediate action had to be taken to redress the balance."

"Our sole objective is to make it a better company, to

get costs down, make better vehicles and to compete in the market place."

Bedford's 1985 results show that turnover rose from £335.9 million in 1984 to £401 million and its total unit sales rose by 28.5 per cent from 47,958 to 61,646. The total loss rose from £62.4 million in 1984. In the first five months of this year, Bedford's truck exports were down 44 per cent and domestic sales down 24 per cent.

Mr Paul Tosh, Bedford's chief executive and general manager, said volume growth last year had been achieved in the light van sector but was offset by a decline in domestic sales of more profitable heavy vans and trucks.

24 companies launch drive to increase British exports

By Our Industrial Correspondent

Senior executives from 24 leading British companies yesterday launched the government-backed Movement for International Trade, a body committed to finding and exploiting "market-led, world-bearing products" for the 1990s and to spearheading a new British industrial export drive.

The MIT, said to complement rather than compete with the efforts of established institutions such as the Confederation of British Industry, aims to pool the experience and knowledge of successful companies and formulate action programmes to enable others to identify opportunities.

But the inauguration of the MIT at a meeting in the heart of the City of London was marred by the immediate withdrawal of four of the potential founder-member companies, some of which said their industries were already conducting their own marketing studies.

Sir Peter Parker, chairman of the British Institute of Management and chairman of MIT's provisional steering committee, declined to name the dropouts, but said he was



Sir Peter Parker: Need for internationalism

not disappointed. Forty companies had been invited to the founders' meeting and he was encouraged that 20 had now expressed a wish to become involved.

The MIT has attracted large American multinational electronics corporations such as Texas Instruments, IBM, Digital Equipment and Hewlett Packard and manufacturers such as Ford, and some British companies, including John Laing, Securicor, ICL and British Aerospace.

Sir Peter said: "Anybody who is anybody in management today must be an internationalist and, in any case, many of the US-owned multinationals in this country re-

gard themselves as British companies."

The MIT committee set up yesterday comprises Sir Peter Parker, chief executive of the consultants Rossmore & Warwick, Mr Campbell Dunford, director of Midland Bank, Mr Ian Harvey, chief executive of the British Technology Group, Mr Geoff Shingles, managing director of Digital Equipment Corporation, and Mr Peter van Cuylenburg, managing director of Texas Instruments.

Mr van Cuylenburg, one of the chief instigators of the MIT, said many organizations, institutions and individuals in Britain were attempting to find solutions to the short-term problems facing industry such as those associated with exchange rates, the European Monetary System, interest rates, pay settlements, skill shortages and tariff barriers. But the long-term issues needed to be addressed as well.

MIT intended to begin by constructing a synthesis of world trade, a specific product and market areas for the 1990-95 period, followed by creation of the action teams which would identify not only products but also the necessary technology and capability.

Indicators point to downturn

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Growth in the economy has weakened, according to the Government's cyclical indicators for the economy, published yesterday. There are also tentative signs of a further downturn in the economy.

The cyclical indicators, which attempt to chart movements in the economy over the business cycle, have been displaying a confused picture in recent months.

However, the inclusion of first quarter gross domestic product figures into the indicators supports the view that the economy hit a growth peak just over 12 months ago, and has been on a weaker growth path since then.

The coincident index has fallen steadily since May 1985. The cyclical peak for the economy may have been even earlier than this, officials said, when allowance is made for the effects of the coal strike.

The shorter leading index for the economy, which is a predictor of turning points six months ahead, has been weak this year, falling every month since December. This renewed decline is becoming more firmly based, Government statisticians believe.

The main exception to the gloomy picture provided by the indicators has been the performance of the longer leading index - which looks 12 months ahead - and which has been rising for most of this year because of the strength of share prices.

Last month, however, it turned down as share prices fell back. But officials said that it is too early to say that this is firm evidence of impending weakness in the economy.

CBI 'agnostic' on plans for third market

The Confederation of British Industry, the employers' organization, yesterday dismissed reports that it is opposed to the Stock Exchange's plans to set up a third market to capture the over-the-counter market.

A CBI spokesman said the organization had decided that "the timing wasn't right to endorse the third market because our member firms are not yet in a position to assess the changes in the City as a result of big bang. We haven't said yes or no."

The Stock Exchange's proposals for the third market, which will allow new and existing unquoted companies to be quoted on its SEAQ computerized price information system, were sent out to members and interested parties last month.

Eleco rejects £25m bid from Whitecroft

By Our City Staff

Whitecroft, the Cheshire property-to-lighting group, launched a £25 million bid yesterday for Eleco Holdings, an industrial firm involved in similar areas.

Although the two chairmen discussed the offer three weeks ago, the all-paper offer was rejected by Eleco as inadequate and unacceptable.

Whitecroft is offering a three-for-five share swap to value Eleco shares at 147p. Eleco shares, which jumped 23p on Friday after it announced a bid approach, yesterday added 9p to 150p after touching 153p. Whitecroft closed 1p firmer at 245p.

Whitecroft's chairman, Mr

Tom Weatherby, says the company's rate of return on shareholders' funds is twice that of Eleco. He added that Whitecroft would probably sell some of Eleco's property portfolio.

Eleco's managing director, Mr Michael Webster, declined to forecast the year ending next week.

Mr Webster indicated Eleco's defence would refer to Whitecroft's unspectacular results for the year to March 31 also issued yesterday. These showed pretax profits down £200,000 at £7.3 million with earnings per share falling from 19.4 to 19p.

Dixons queries profits

By Alison Eadie

Dixons Group has renewed its call on Woolworth Holdings to reveal the net profits and return on investment it makes from the new look Focus stores.

Dixons yesterday said sales in Focus departments may be showing an increase of only 8 per cent over the same period last year, as against the 29 per cent over two years claimed by Woolworth. It also said the gross profit, up 40 per cent

over two years, appeared to be up only 8.5 per cent last year.

A Woolworth director, Mr Nigel Whitaker, replied that the profit of the Focus pudding was in the profit forecast made by Woolworth, which exists as a doubling of retailing profit in the Woolworth chain this year. He added that Dixons had yet to reveal facts and figures about its Ramrod strategy.

£12m purchase of Milletts by Sears 'is not a rescue'

By Lawrence Lever

The corporate appetite for an increased high street presence received a small satisfaction yesterday when Sears, whose interests include Deicis, Selfridges and William Hill, the bookmaker, bought Milletts Leisure Shops, the camping and leisure clothing group, for £12 million.

The acquisition will add 122 Milletts shops, each in a different town, to the 64 Milletts outlets owned by Sears.

The all-share Sears offer, recommended by the Milletts board, has already been accepted by the chairman, Mr Alan Millett, and his family interests who, between them, speak for 56.34 per cent of the company's share capital.

Sears is offering Milletts Leisure shareholders 11 new Sears shares for every six, valuing Milletts' shares at 228p, against the 185p they stood at immediately before

yesterday's announcement. The shares jumped 40p to 225p, before easing to 215p at the close.

Both sides denied that the move for Milletts was a rescue. Milletts last month announced a pretax trading loss of £1.72 million before sales of fixed assets converted this to a marginal £15,000 pretax profit. At the same time the company announced that it had received an approach. Mr Millett said yesterday that the main reason for the deal was that he had wanted to retire "and place the company into very much stronger hands."

He declined to be drawn on the question of who approached whom, pointing out that discussions originated through the offices of Grieson Grant, the broker to both companies.

Mr Millett said: "It is not a rescue operation. It is purely in the best interests of the

shareholders and the employees of the company."

Mr Millett, who built up Milletts on foundations laid by his father and now holds 24.41 per cent of the company, is to step down from the Milletts board "by mutual consent."

Mr Geoffrey Maitland Smith, chairman of Sears, said yesterday that Milletts' trading problems had stemmed from its acquisition of 53 camping and leisurewear shops from Wakefield Stores in April 1984. Milletts closed 35 of these shops last year.

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Banks ready for fight on financial services

The Financial Services Bill sailed through its third reading in the House of Commons, but as it heads towards the Lords there is still a furious debate between the Government and the City legislation. The banks are in the thick of it and, if they have their way, there are still considerable modifications to come before the blue print for investor-protection is complete.

The banks' objections are founded on a single and sweeping criticism of the way the Securities and Investment Board has been guiding the debate.

Everything the SIB has done so far, they claim, has been geared for specialist institutions, such as insurance companies and investment management firms. They take lamentably little account, according to the critics, of the position of generalists, such as the clearing banks, which like to see themselves as all things to all men and are increasingly willing to sell almost any kind of financial service to the public.

There was considerable relief among the banks when the Government rejected a motion supporting the SIB proposal for a register of investment salesmen. They argued that to register each individual salesman with the main regulatory authority went against the spirit of the bill, which proposes that institutions should be responsible for monitoring the honesty and competence of their staff.

A register would have caused serious administrative problems since it would have included virtually all bank staff coming into contact with the public. The banks estimate that out of a likely 200,000 salesmen registered, 50,000 would have been clearing bank staff.

Moreover, clearing bank staff turnover is rapid, so the process of constantly adding and erasing names from the register would have been an unnecessary headache. The cost would also have been large - estimated at an initial £6 million, followed by a further £5 million annually to fund the whole register. A substantial proportion of this would have fallen on the banks.

The register had other powerful opponents, such as the National Consumer Council and the Office of Fair Trading, but there are fears that it will be revived in the Lords. There are suggestions that a number of Self-Regulatory Organizations will try to institute registers of their own even if the SIB does not.

Further discussion is also needed over the issue of cold calling. According to Paul Tillett, of the British Bankers' Association: "The current proposals are a nonsense. We cannot believe that it is really the intention of the authorities to produce this situation, but we have had no assurance from the SIB yet. The bill needs changing here."

The problem is that the bill defines cold calling as being an unsolicited oral communication by a salesman on an investment matter other than life assurance and unit trusts. Taken literally - and that is the only way the banks can take it at present - this

means that a bank manager cannot discuss investment options with a client unless the client himself brings up the subject of each separate investment. With such restraints, the bank manager would be prevented from doing his job.

Added to this, is the problem of polarization: the bill lays down that salesmen must be either brokers or agents selling a single company's products. This puts the clearing banks, whose staff do both, in an impossible position.

All the big four clearers own insurance broking and unit trust companies; Barclays and Lloyds also own their own life companies. The problem comes not with individual subsidiaries, but when their products are sold, as they often are, through the bank's main-branch network. The current proposals would presumably mean banks would have to stop selling products of companies other than their own through their branches.

The banks are, on the whole, optimistic of reaching a compromise on these points. "We hope that the SIB will not insist on imposing the polarization rules rigidly," says Mr Tillett. Depending on how flexible the SIB is willing to be, the problem could be solved by finding different solutions for each bank, taking its particular circumstances into account.

They are less optimistic on three other issues still under discussion. In March, the SIB published a stack of rules governing the conduct of business with investors, many of which seemed highly inappropriate for clearing banks.

There was, for instance, much emphasis on customer-agreement letters, but the banks are not keen on having to send regular letters to each of their 25 million customers. This issue will only be discussed once the cold calling and polarization questions have been settled.

The banks are also asking to be given a statutory indemnity against the misuse of funds by investment managers, similar to the indemnity they have under the Banking Act regarding solicitors' funds. Like solicitors, investment managers will be required to keep their clients' funds in separate accounts. Banks are worried about being sued by clients of investment firms which mishandle client funds held in the banks' accounts.

There is feeling among the banks that they will not get their way on this. As Mr Tillett puts it: "It is convenient for the SIB and the Government to have us acting as policemen and insurers of investors' money. They are probably quite pleased to see us stuck with some liability."

There is equally little hope of changing the proposals giving two different sets of supervisory rules governing money market transactions of different sizes.

In the crucial foreign exchange market, for instance, the rules on transactions of more than £500,000 are different from those on smaller deals.

Another excellent year with increased balance sheet strength to support our development plans.

Ronald A. B. Miller, C.B.E., Chairman

Highlights of the year		
Pre-tax profit	up	20%
Earnings per share	up	19%
Capital expenditure	up	36%
Summary of results		
Sales	1986	1985
	£285m	£266m
Profit before tax	£42.1m	£35.1m
Earnings per share	18.5p	15.6p
Dividend per share	6.2p	5.47p

Dawson International is Scotland's leading textile group. Best known for its luxury knitwear, in recent years the Group has broadened its spread of interests into other speciality textile areas - both geographically and in product terms.

Copies of the Annual Report, containing the Chairman's Statement, may be obtained from the Secretary, Dawson International plc., Kinross, KY13 7DH, Scotland.



Dawson International  
Quality from start to finish

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS	
New York	Dow Jones 1884.28 (-15.28)
Tokyo	Nikkei Dow 17457.89 (+3.03)
Hong Kong	Hang Seng 1777.15 (-3.89)
Amsterdam	Gen 291.6 (+1.0)
Sydney	AO 1214.8 (+0.1)
Frankfurt	Commerzbank 1978.9 (+27.7)
Brussels	General 642.06 (+21.43)
Paris	CAC 340.8 (same)
Zurich	SKA General n/a
London closing prices Page 26	
INTEREST RATES	
London	Bank Rate 10%
	3-month Interbank 9 1/8% - 10%
	3-month eligible bills 9 1/8% - 10%
	buying rate
US	Prime Rate 8.50%
	Federal Funds 8 1/2%
	3-month Treasury Bills 6 1/2 - 6 3/4%
	30-year bonds 9 7/8 - 10%
CURRENCIES	
London	New York
£: \$1.5025	£: \$1.5175
£: DM3.3731	£: DM2.2450
£: Sfr1.7901	£: Index 116.9
£: FF110.7854	
£: Yen252.19	ECU £1.636543
£: Index 75.7	SDR £0.774431
MAIN PRICE CHANGES	
RISES:	
Brownlee	90p (+18p)
Brammer	370p (+14p)
James Nall	201p (+17p)
Hugh Mackay	115p (+11p)
Kepp Trust	159p (+18p)
JA Davernish	940p (+15p)
J Cropper	330p (+25p)
Millett	215p (+30p)
B.A.T. Industries	380p (+10p)
Mercury Int	780p (+15p)
Daelen	750p (+50p)
Acia Property	350p (+10p)
FGS Group	245p (+12p)
TV Services	145p (+10p)
Conroy Pet	123p (+10p)
Thomson 7-Line	228p (+13p)
Norfolk Hotels	105p (+10p)
FALLS:	
Royal Insurance	840p (-25p)
Avana Group	153p (-25p)
Heath (C.E.)	537p (-31p)
Channel Tunnel	80p (-15p)
GOLD	
London Fixing	AM \$340.50 PM \$341.05
	close \$340.50-\$341.00 (\$228.00-\$228.50)
New York	Comex \$341.10-\$341.60
NORTH SEA OIL	
OR Brent (July)	\$11.50 bbl



WALL STREET

New York (AP-Dow Jones) - Share prices finished lower in moderate trading yesterday as the blue chip sector surrendered most of the gains achieved late on Friday.

Part of yesterday's selling was attributed to futures-related "sell" programmes, while virtually all of Friday's sharp blue-chip gains were reported to be linked with the close-out of trading in June stock index

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

sterling rose by 10 points to 1.5025 yesterday, while its trade-weighted index closed unchanged at 75.7. An initial flurry of trading reflected adjustments to the dollar's overnight strength on Far Eastern markets.

COMMODITIES

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION - Average livestock prices at representative markets on June 23.

GB: Cattle 101 17c per kg live weight.

GB: Sheep 154 35c per kg live weight.

GB: Pigs 75.37c per kg live weight.

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Market rates	June 23	June 22
N York 1.4860-1.5040	1.5025	1.5025
London 1.5025-1.5040	1.5025	1.5025
Amsterd 1.5025-1.5040	1.5025	1.5025
Brussels 1.5025-1.5040	1.5025	1.5025
Copenhagen 1.5025-1.5040	1.5025	1.5025
Frankfurt 1.5025-1.5040	1.5025	1.5025
Geneva 1.5025-1.5040	1.5025	1.5025
Madrid 1.5025-1.5040	1.5025	1.5025
Oslo 1.5025-1.5040	1.5025	1.5025
Paris 1.5025-1.5040	1.5025	1.5025
Stockholm 1.5025-1.5040	1.5025	1.5025
Tokyo 1.5025-1.5040	1.5025	1.5025
Zurich 1.5025-1.5040	1.5025	1.5025

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Market rates	June 23	June 22
N York 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
London 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Amsterd 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Brussels 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Copenhagen 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Frankfurt 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Geneva 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Madrid 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Oslo 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Paris 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Stockholm 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Tokyo 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Zurich 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Market rates	June 23	June 22
N York 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
London 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Amsterd 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Brussels 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Copenhagen 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Frankfurt 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Geneva 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Madrid 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Oslo 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Paris 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Stockholm 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Tokyo 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Zurich 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000

OTHER STERLING RATES

Market rates	June 23	June 22
N York 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
London 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Amsterd 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Brussels 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Copenhagen 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Frankfurt 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Geneva 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Madrid 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Oslo 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Paris 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Stockholm 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Tokyo 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Zurich 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Market rates	June 23	June 22
N York 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
London 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Amsterd 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Brussels 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Copenhagen 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Frankfurt 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Geneva 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Madrid 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Oslo 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Paris 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Stockholm 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Tokyo 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Zurich 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Market rates	June 23	June 22
N York 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
London 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Amsterd 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Brussels 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Copenhagen 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Frankfurt 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Geneva 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Madrid 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Oslo 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Paris 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Stockholm 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Tokyo 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Zurich 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000

CANADIAN PRICES

Market rates	June 23	June 22
N York 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
London 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Amsterd 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Brussels 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Copenhagen 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Frankfurt 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Geneva 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Madrid 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Oslo 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Paris 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Stockholm 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Tokyo 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Zurich 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Market rates	June 23	June 22
N York 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
London 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Amsterd 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Brussels 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Copenhagen 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Frankfurt 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Geneva 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Madrid 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Oslo 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Paris 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Stockholm 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Tokyo 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Zurich 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000

UNIT TRUST MANAGERS

Market rates	June 23	June 22
N York 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
London 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Amsterd 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Brussels 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Copenhagen 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Frankfurt 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Geneva 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Madrid 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Oslo 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Paris 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Stockholm 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Tokyo 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Zurich 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000

UNIT TRUST MANAGERS

Market rates	June 23	June 22
N York 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
London 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Amsterd 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Brussels 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Copenhagen 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Frankfurt 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
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Stockholm 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Tokyo 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Zurich 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000

UNIT TRUST MANAGERS

Market rates	June 23	June 22
N York 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
London 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Amsterd 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Brussels 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Copenhagen 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Frankfurt 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Geneva 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Madrid 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Oslo 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
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Tokyo 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
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UNIT TRUST MANAGERS

Market rates	June 23	June 22
N York 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
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Zurich 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000

UNIT TRUST MANAGERS

Market rates	June 23	June 22
N York 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
London 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Amsterd 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Brussels 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
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Frankfurt 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Geneva 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
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Zurich 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000

UNIT TRUST MANAGERS

Market rates	June 23	June 22
N York 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
London 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
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Madrid 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Oslo 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
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Zurich 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000

UNIT TRUST MANAGERS

Market rates	June 23	June 22
N York 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
London 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Amsterd 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
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Frankfurt 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Geneva 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
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Stockholm 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Tokyo 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Zurich 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000

UNIT TRUST MANAGERS

Market rates	June 23	June 22
N York 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
London 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Amsterd 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
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Copenhagen 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Frankfurt 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
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Madrid 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Oslo 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Paris 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Stockholm 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Tokyo 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Zurich 1.0000	1.0000	1.0000



TEMPUS

# Avana Group loses its glamour rating

Avana Group, the one-time glamour stock, came nowhere near market expectations with its preliminary results announced yesterday. In the year to March 29, 1986, pretax profit was £20.2 million, an apparent improvement on the £19.5 million of 1984-85.

Closer examination, however, reveals that the group included in pretax profit £2.1 million described as "other operating income", which in reality was capital gains made on the sale of a variety of quoted investments and marketable securities.

Strip these out and pretax profit on normal activities fell by 7 per cent to £18 million, a turnover up 4.6 per cent to £202.5 million. This is a long way below the £21.5 million analysts were going for at the interim stage.

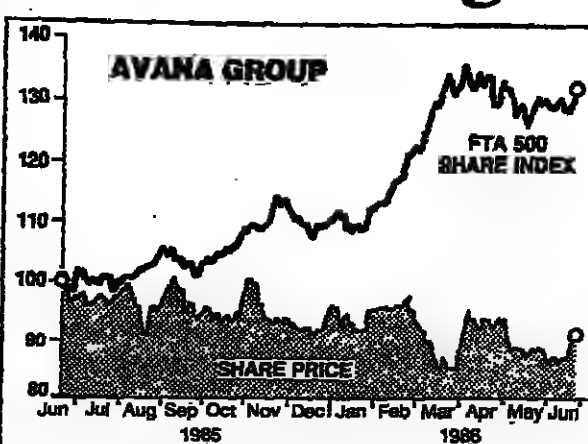
Avana is best known as a supplier of specialist meat products to Marks and Spencer. This division is now doing well after the delayed completion of a factory. Its Viota subsidiary, which makes high-quality traditional cereals, is doing less well. Having carved out a highly profitable niche in own-label cereals, it is now finding its markets under attack from the makers of extruded cereal. The loss of £4 million in turnover as a result of new entrants, especially the Co-op, has been a serious blow, and Dr JS Randall, the chairman, will be happy if he can make that up by the year end through increased exports and new products at home.

Avana's preserves subsidiary, James Robertson & Sons, is also suffering from pressures on margins due to overcapacity in jam and marmalade manufacturing. Logically, in the end, some capacity will need to be shut, but Avana intends to keep its single factory in production.

For the year to March 1987, Robert Brand, of stockbroker Wood Mackenzie is looking for pretax profit to rise to £21.5 million, but this includes £1.2 million of investment gains, implying an underlying profit recovery of a little more than £2 million. Assuming a tax charge of 32 per cent, earnings per share will be 41.6p, putting Avana on a price/earnings multiple of 12.8. It continues to generate large amounts of cash - it had £10.8 million of cash and investments at the year end, nearly twice what it had at the previous year end. But Avana has deservedly now lost its premium rating, probably for good.

## Dillingworth, Morris

An improbable group of people should be relieved at the success Alan Lewis has made at Dillingworth, Morris in transforming the company from profits of £21,000 in 1982-83 to last year's £6.2 million. The manufacturer of



tennis balls for Wimbledon fortnight, cloth for the overcoats of the Politburo members, and the Pope's apparel, is now clearly through the first phase of recovery and preparing for expansion.

So far Mr Lewis - who owns 51 per cent of the shares - has concentrated on remedial action. Borrowings of more than £20 million have been replaced by £2.6 million of net cash and the non-performing bulk worsted weaving subsidiary has been sold. The South African interests were disposed of in the nick of time last year and all the remaining subsidiaries are now profitable.

Most importantly, Mr Lewis has re-oriented the group towards design-conscious products and is striving to establish the Crombie name as more than just a range of men's overcoats. The shares have responded by rising from below 10p in the summer of 1983 when Mr Lewis was battling for control, to 127p yesterday, down 2p on the day.

The trouble is, despite this success, the hardest part is only now beginning. The underlying sales increase last year was just 10 per cent. Loss elimination plus the benefits of tighter financial controls have already come through and further profits growth will depend on the planned higher value content.

Rather than going for an increase in sales, Mr Lewis is aiming for margins. The Crombie ready-to-wear lines, which last year sold 30,000 units, have recently hoisted retail prices without damaging forward sales. With £75 on the retail price of an overcoat, the company believes it is protecting its quality image.

The thrust to get nearer to the consumer means that almost half of Crombie's output in two years should be in own-made garments. Similar developments are planned at John G Hardy and the company has already considered moving directly into retailing, casting more than a passing eye over John Collier. With the next cyclical downturn already affecting some rivals, next year should also bring acquisition opportunities.

Pretax profits of £6.9 million on a prospective p/e ratio of 11. The yield is now a more visible 3.9 per cent.

## Brown & Tawse

Brown & Tawse has an image problem. In the City, it is regarded as a steel stockholder, but this activity now accounts for only 20 per cent of turnover.

The main business, accounting for more than 70 per cent of sales, is distributing what the company calls pipeline equipment. The terminology suggests steel tubes, but a better description would be central heating, air-conditioning and plumbing components. In addition, it has a small construction plant business.

Despite this misunderstanding about the nature of Brown & Tawse's business, its shares have been good performers. Since Mr Swraj Paul's Caparo Industries sold its 16 per cent stake last year, the shares have risen from 126p to 176p (down 6p yesterday).

Pretax profits for the year to March 31 were slightly worse than expected at £5.73 million, but still up from £5.36 million. The company says the fourth quarter was disappointing, reflecting reports from a number of other engineering companies.

Business since March has not been much stronger, though PJ Holloway, a London distributor of fans and air-distribution equipment acquired last year for £2.25 million, has made a good start.

In all, Brown & Tawse spent £3.2 million on four acquisitions last year, taking its borrowings to 30 per cent of shareholders' funds. More acquisitions are planned.

Assuming profits rise to £6.2 million in the current year, the shares are trading on less than 10 times prospective earnings. They yield 5.8 per cent.

This looks low compared with other distributors such as British Steam Specialities - which is also in the "pipeline" business - and distinctly mispriced against the ratings accorded to stock market favourites such as FFI Tomkins, now cum Pegler-Hattersley.

# Vickers in talks on Ordnance tank plant

By Teresa Poole

Discussions are under way between Vickers and the Ministry of Defence about the future of the Royal Ordnance tank factory at Leeds.

After the indefinite postponement last week of Royal Ordnance's stock market flotation, Vickers has asked for financial information on the state-owned company's tank business.

Controversy over a £100 million order for Challenger tanks, which was due to be placed with Royal Ordnance without a competitive tender, contributed to the last-minute postponement of privatization. Without the order, the future for the Leeds operation and its 5,000 employees, looked uncertain.

The Ministry of Defence is now considering alternative methods of privatization, including the possibility of selling parts of the company to private buyers.

Vickers has its own tank-manufacturing facilities in Newcastle but the demand for main battle tanks is not thought to be sufficient to keep both plants operating profitably. The closure of one of the plants would remove the scope for competition and put thousands of jobs at stake.

Vickers said yesterday it was "keeping its options open". At the British Army Equipment Exhibition yesterday, Mr Roger Pinnington, chief executive at Royal Ordnance, said his company was confident of winning any competitive tender for the tank order.

Royal Ordnance had expected to announce the order this week. The company maintains it was prepared for privatization - in contrast to statements by Mr George Younger, the Defence Secretary, that it did not have all the necessary features in place.

Nervous selling clipped 6p from Rascal Electronics at 194p in late trading yesterday, amid growing fears in the market that the group will announce a big rights issue along with its preliminary results later today.

Marketmen claimed that Sir Ernest Harrison, the chairman and chief executive, would decide to take advantage of

Yellowhammer, the USM-quoted advertising group, held steady at 150p. We should hear soon that Mr Jon Summerill - the chairman - and fellow-director, Mr Jeremy Pemberton, have sold 1 million shares (10 per cent) between them following last week's figures.

Recent recovery prospects to ask shareholders for an extra £200 million to help pay off growing debts. Terms were even mentioned on the basis of one-for-four at 170p. But with Rascal expected to produce figures showing a fall in pretax profits for the year to March 31, from £132.2 million to between £88 million and £100 million, the City may have felt the group was pushing its luck.

Last night, a spokesman for Rascal said that the group would not be announcing a rights issue with the figures.

The rest of the equity market opened the second leg of the account in a lethargic mood. Investors already heavily involved with the Thames Television and Morgan Grenfell flotations decided to remain on the sidelines. Dealers complained that, with all the market's spare cash now earmarked for both these issues, turnover elsewhere was down to a trickle.

# Racal slips amid fears of £200m rights issue

By Michael Clark

Last night the stages were predicting a 500p striking price for the Morgan Grenfell tender offer.

The rest of the equity market continued to drift throughout the day on lack of interest. The weekend strength of Wall Street offered little inspiration. Two gloomy surveys of the economy took their toll. As a result, the FT 30-share index finished 15.2 down at 1,338.2, while the broader FT-SE 100 lost 14.4 at 1,622.8.

Glits spent a lacklustre day, closing virtually unchanged on Friday's levels.

In foods, Hillsdown Holdings spurred 7p to 283p following a visit to the company by Wood Mackenzie, the Scottish broker. Wood Mackenzie is said to have upgraded its profits forecast at the pretax level from £45 million to £48.5 million. Last year, Hillsdown made profits of £33.4 million. The shares are rated a "buy", up to the 300p level.

Among the leaders, Beecham closed unchanged at

396p, after 401p, following a meeting with Savory Milin, the broker.

Tan Sri Khoo Teck Puan, the Malaysian financier, has been buying more shares in Exco International, the money broking and financial services group. This time he has acquired 1.2 million shares, taking his total holding to 66.85 million, or 28.55 per cent. Exco failed to respond to the news, finishing 3p lower at 224p.

Meanwhile, Mr Reg Brierley, the New Zealand entrepreneur, has been increasing his stake in Horizon Travel, the package holidays group. He now speaks for 5.75 million shares (11.52 per cent). At the previous count, his holding was just under 7.5 per cent. Bass, the brewer, remains Horizon's biggest independent shareholder, with 25.62 per cent of the votes.

On the bid front, Millets Leisure jumped 30p to 215p following the agreed bid of 231p a share from Sears Holdings, the Selfridges department store and Saxe

shoe retailing group. The bid values Millets at £12 million. Sears, which recently bought Foster Brothers, slipped 1.5p to 124.5p.

Eleco Holdings, the construction, engineering and property group, jumped 9p to 150p after rejecting terms from its rival, Whitecroft. Talks about a merger broke down earlier this month after

Watch for acquisitions at Wace Group, which performs printing services for advertising agencies and is now well down the recovery road. The shares stand at a peak of 55p and, in the present year, the company could make up to £500,000 against £284,000 - and the heavy losses of just two years ago.

failure to agree a price. Whitecroft is now offering three of its shares for every five Eleco.

This values Eleco at £25 million. Whitecroft was 1p firmer at 245p, despite reporting a dip in pretax profits from £7.46 million to £7.2 million for the year to March 31 last.

The retail sector encountered some sporadic selling, led by Marks and Spencer, 4p lower at 197p, after 195p. Dealers fear that analysts will be forced to downgrade their profit estimates for the current year.

This came after an article in The Times on Saturday highlighting the problems the company has had to face owing to the poor start to summer and the absence of American tourists. The company is expected to meet brokers this week.

Profit-taking clipped 2p from Next at 260p and left Laura Ashley 3p easier at 210p.

## RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES	
Accord Pub (125p)	141 -1
Alumasc (150p)	151
Arlington (115p)	178 -6
Ashley (115p)	210 -3
Barker (Charters) (150p)	131
Bick (147p)	137 -4
Br. Island (50p)	96
Broden (145p)	108 -3
Campbell Armstrong (110p)	110 -1
Clarke Hooper (130p)	154 +2
Dalepac (107p)	108
Dean & B (50p)	82
Densiron (50p)	63
Edie (50p)	122 -2
Evans Halcrow (120p)	40
Fields (MRS) (140p)	120
Gumby Corp (150p)	154
Hagges (1140p)	143
Hodgson (85p)	92
Jury's Hotel (115p)	106
Lopes (145p)	131
Monotype (57p)	157 +1
Savage (100p)	104 +1

Soundtracks (40p)	40 +1
Task Force (95p)	106
Tech For Bus (110p)	118
Templeton (215p)	208
Tenby Inds (112p)	120
Usher (Frank) (100p)	82 +1
Westbury (145p)	181
Worreston (110p)	148

## RIGHTS ISSUES

Amari N/P	7
Amalgamated N/P	140
Cater Allen F/P	138
Cliffords Daines N/P	30 +2
Clean (L) N/P	345
Five Oaks N/P	6 -1
Freemantle N/P	5 -1
Gerrard N/P	28 -2
Lea F/P	245
Nat West N/P	255 -12
Nel & Spencer N/P	17 -2
(Issue price in brackets)	

# Business is picking up. (Followed by treatment and disposal.)

The amount of rubbish produced in this country is staggering.

Every year, London alone produces some three million tonnes of domestic waste, to which trade and industry add millions more.

Thankfully, this is something that many people need never worry about.

Because, faced with huge amounts of domestic and industrial waste, many companies and local authorities simply leave it all in our hands.

Or more accurately, in our laboratory-controlled treatment facilities, our containers and our landfill sites.

As one of many industrial transportation and distribution services provided by Ocean, Cory Waste Management plays a low-profile but crucial part in meeting the needs of our clients.

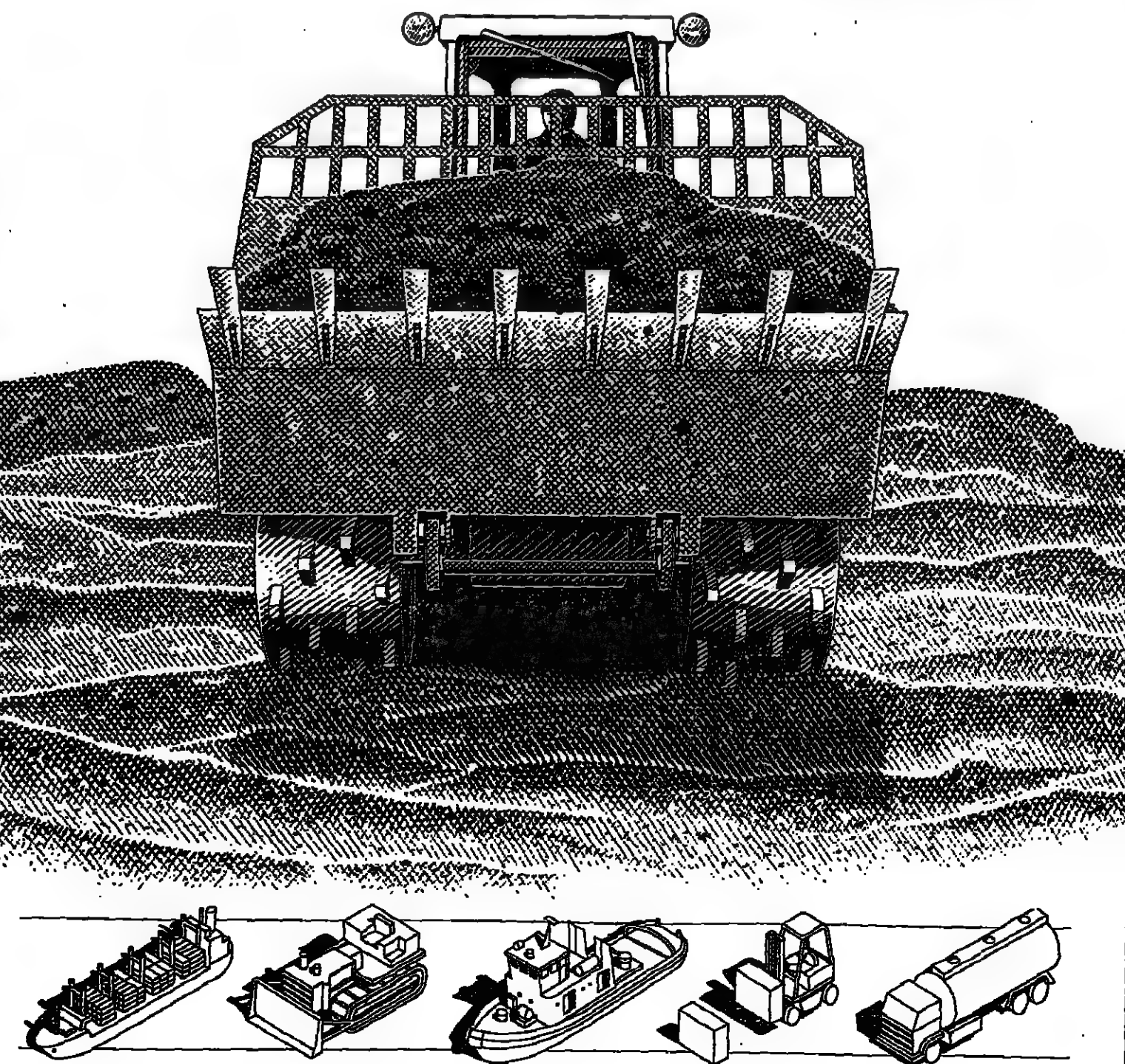
Crucial, because there has never been more waste to handle, nor a greater need to protect the environment

from its effects.

Low-profile, because we cover our tracks: our landfill sites may end up as golf courses or nature reserves, but they will not be left looking like landfill sites.

In business terms, though, Cory Waste Management's profile is anything but low. By keeping well ahead of today's increasingly tough waste disposal regulations, we're also keeping ahead of the competition. Recently we were awarded a 15 year, £70 million contract to handle over seven million tonnes of London's waste. So far we've invested £11 million in our London operation and we're continuing to invest and expand, developing techniques such as the solidification of chemical waste.

All with the aim of assuring a healthy future for the environment. And for ourselves, of course.



OCEAN TRANSPORT & TRADING plc, 47 RUSSELL SQUARE LONDON WC1B 4JP

# Opec oil ministers divided before crucial meeting

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The oil ministers of the 13 member nations of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries have already split into two groups in the run-up to their crisis meeting in Yugoslavia tomorrow.

The meeting is scheduled to run until Saturday, and there are signs that any agreement reached will be fragile.

The conservative Gulf states, led by Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, have been joined by Nigeria and Indonesia in their campaign to maintain Opec's market share by pumping more oil.

New figures from a source close to the Saudi Arabian oil ministry yesterday suggested that Opec is producing 19 million barrels of oil a day, more than 2½ million barrels

a day above agreed quotas. Libya, Algeria and Iran, on the other hand, want prices forced upwards by the imposition of strict output cuts.

Ecuador, although a small producer, has now joined that camp. Its oil minister said yesterday: "Prices are more important than volume."

The meeting will open with renewed pleas for non-Opec producers such as Britain to accept some form of output restraint to force prices up. But, while Saudi Arabia and Kuwait pursue a policy of maintaining their market share simply by cutting prices, the split within Opec could become deeper than the split between Opec and the non-Opec producers.

The first division is likely to emerge soon after the meeting is officially declared open when a new president has to be chosen.

The current president, Senator Arturo Grisanti, the Venezuelan oil minister, was depressed at the end of the last ministerial meeting at its failure to reach a consensus, and he is not keen to continue in the chair.

Wood Mackenzie, the leading oil industry broker, is more optimistic than most that the meeting will end in agreement. The company's oil analysts said yesterday: "We believe the prospects for an agreement are improving and that the market is underestimating such a possibility."

# Unions fear closure of Plessey plant

The trade unions at Plessey's head office at Ilford, Essex, yesterday came out strongly against GEC's £1.13 billion bid.

An independent report commissioned by the six unions gives warning of the "grave threat of closure" to the plant which produces technical military radios. The Monopolies and Mergers Commission is due to report on the bid next month.

The unions believe that the future of the site and its 2,000 workers is unsure, even under Plessey, but that if the bid succeeds either Ilford or a corresponding GEC site would be closed.

They say that Plessey should diversify into the production of high growth non-military markets such as cellular radios at Ilford.

The unions represented are ASTMS, EETPU, IASS, IGWU, APEX, and AEU.

# Names receive £2m compensation offer

By Alison Eadie

Lloyd's names on Brooks & Dooley syndicates have been made a compensation offer worth more than £2 million after two years of intensive negotiations.

The offer has been hammered out between Mr Raymond Brooks, former chairman of the Brooks & Dooley underwriting agency, who was expelled from Lloyd's in December, 1984, and Mr Jack Alston, independent chairman of the agency. Mr Mark Farrer, chairman of a representative committee of names, has recommended the offer.

The offer provides for Mr Brooks to supervise the run-off (closing down) of the Fidentia Marine Insurance Company, based in Bermuda, for a salary of £30,000 (£33,000) for one year, renewable at the committee's option.

Although Mr Brooks was expelled from Lloyd's for failing to disclose that he controlled Fidentia, a company through which he was channelling syndicate reinsurance, he was felt to be the best person to manage the run-off because he understood the business written. Mr Brooks will be released from any liability and share in the proceeds of the run-off.

A Lloyd's report estimated that Fidentia had gained a net £6.2 million from Brooks & Dooley syndicates. Since then Fidentia has met, or will meet, claims worth £3 million in excess of the premiums paid.

The offer will be taxed by the Inland Revenue at the rate of 55 per cent on money realized by the end of this year, 60 per cent on money next year and 65 per cent thereafter. The deal with the Revenue will settle names' tax problems and allow them to claim tax relief on losses.



Charles Goodhart sees stronger Western growth

# Commodity price fall will bring lower interest rates

Perhaps the most remarkable feature of the world economic scene in the years since 1979 has been the persistently high level of interest rates, not only in nominal terms, but in real terms, i.e. deflated by some measure of expected inflation.

It has not been easy to explain this phenomenon, nor the reasons for the low level of real interest rates earlier in the 1970s. However, it has become increasingly clear during the past two decades that the most important policy-induced events have been precisely those changes in monetary policy that led to the switch from a low real-interest regime in the 1970s to a high real-interest regime in the 1980s.

In a world in which the ease and magnitude of capital

to stabilize the price of oil again (at any price) would seem low, although not entirely impossible. Under these circumstances the newly impoverished, high-population members of Opec will have an enormous fiscal and balance-of-payments incentive to continue pumping oil as fast as possible.

In addition, Saudi Arabia and the empty Gulf states have an incentive - to re-establish their strategic position of key control over oil production - to hold oil prices low enough and long enough to knock out a significant proportion of high-cost marginal production in the rest of the world, as at the Alaskan North Slope.

Thus, there seems little reason why the present excess supply should be removed from the market in the short run. Moreover, whenever it is thought that oil prices are heading downwards, it may well be considered advantageous to bring forward oil production, from the future date when the price would be lower to the present.

Under all these circumstances one would expect oil prices to continue falling, until they reach a level where the expectation is that the future increase in the price of oil will give broadly the same return as investing in safe securities.

I suppose that the bottom line on this comes down to the question of what would have to be the price of a barrel of oil, given expectations of short and long-run elasticities of supply and demand, to make the general market expect that on average the future price of oil would appreciate from that level at a rate approximating to the rate of interest available elsewhere.

In particular, given the fiscal and external balance of payments pressure on a number of oil-producing, less-developed countries such as Algeria, Egypt, Indonesia, Mexico and Nigeria, it seems likely to me that the price of oil will have to trade for some period, at least of months, in a range below \$12, to make people reasonably confident that the price of oil will begin (slowly) appreciating once more.

The collapse in oil and commodity prices benefits the Western industrialized com-

munity in several ways. In particular, it will relax the bind in which many countries became stuck recently, involving an unhappy interaction between big fiscal deficits, (themselves partly a structural inheritance from earlier, more lavish years, and partly caused by the depression and high unemployment of the 1980s), and the tight monetary policy adopted generally.

This bind was in some large part responsible for the continuing high level of real (long-term) interest rates.

First, the fall in oil and commodity prices directly reduces the rate of inflation and moderates inflationary expectations over the next few years. That of itself will lower world nominal interest rates and thereby reduce the fiscal deficit of all our countries.

## There are clouds on the horizon for Britain

Second, with given monetary policies, the fall in commodity prices will encourage an expansion of real output. That will also reduce the fiscal deficit. But the smaller fiscal deficits from these various routes will again diminish fears of future inflation, and thus allow a further reduction in nominal (and real) interest rates, which will further raise output.

The Western countries have switched from a bind, or vicious spiral, as a result of the interaction of money and fiscal policies, to a virtuous spiral. No wonder bond yields have tumbled.

This shift has transformed the outlook for Western industrialized countries. Despite recent poor figures for output growth in Western countries I expect that, for the next couple of years at least, there will be much stronger growth, probably with falling unemployment, than most people have yet realized. The context in which the Western developed countries have now been placed has become much more fortunate.

One question, however, is whether Britain can share fully in this. So far financial markets, especially the exchange market, have responded to the particular impact upon Brit-

ain of the decline in the oil price much more maturely and sensibly than might have been feared.

I was surprised that there was not further downwards pressure on sterling during the period in which oil prices were dropping extremely sharply. As a result Britain has been able to join in the recent rounds of interest rate reductions. I see no reason why these rounds of interest rate reductions should not go somewhat further. Real interest rates in most Western countries remain historically extremely high.

There are also certain possible developments, such as international debt problems, among the oil-producing less-developed countries and bad debt problems more generally among North American banks with a heavy proportion of their assets tied up in loans to energy, agriculture and property (whose value is related to these primary industries), which could bring about circumstances which forced yet further sharp reductions in interest rates, notably in the US.

While this could cause extremely serious problems for those parts of the financial system directly caught up in such debt problems, the consequential fall in interest rates, and rise in general asset prices, would represent a boon for the rest of us.

There are sizeable clouds on the horizon for Britain, however.

Two in particular may be noted; the first is no less than the size of Mr Roy Hattersley's hand, and represents political risk; the second concerns relations to Britain's labour markets which seem, compared to our competitors, uniquely ineffective in adjusting wage levels to prevent the continuation of severe disequilibria, and thereby foster the unhappy continuation of both high unemployment and faster inflation in unit labour costs in Britain.

The author, chief economic adviser at the Bank of England from 1977-85, recently became the Norman Sosnow Professor of Banking and Finance at the London School of Economics and Political Science. He is a non-executive director of Gernard & National.

## Regional director for NatWest

National Westminster Bank: Mr Christopher Kenyon is now a director of the north regional board.

Derek Crouch (Sales): Mr Graham Barratt has been made a director.

Watney Mann & Truman Breweries: Mr D A Hardie has joined the board as quality and technical director.

BOC Group: Mr Desmond O'Connell will become group managing director, responsible for the gases and health-care businesses, from October 1.

Wades Departmental Stores: Mr Barry Nobel is now the finance director.

Chemical Bank International: Mr Michael Caiger has been named executive director in charge of securities sales and distribution. Mr Alby Cator as executive director, loan syndications, loan sales and Euro-commercial paper and Mr Timothy Lloyd-Hughes, executive director, Japan/Asia desk, London.

Texas Homecare: Mr Eric Salamon has been appointed commercial director, with responsibility primarily for marketing, advertising and public relations.

DHL International (UK): Mr Richard Johnson has been made sales and marketing director.

M J Gleeson (Northern): Mr B J Healy has been appointed managing director in succession to Mr J F G.



Stefan Zachary



Eric Salamon

Fabry. Mr J D Kay has been made the director responsible for building operations administered from the Sheffield and Manchester offices.

Simplex Electrical Group: Mr Gerald Hardist will join the board on August 1. He will succeed Mr P O Carruthers as director and general manager of Simplex power centre division.

BBC Television: Mr Michael Grade will become director of programmes from July 7, when he also joins the BBC board of management.

He succeeds Mr Brian Weaham who will become managing director, BBC Radio, also from July 7.

Association of British Insur-

Jacobs has been made managing director and also joins the main board of S&W Berford. McCormack & Dodge: Mr Dave Jarman has become technical director.

Clarke Hooper: Mr Patrick Leverton has been appointed chief executive of Ovis, the group's design subsidiary. Hill and Knowlton: Mr Richard Cheney has been named chairman-elect.

Allied International Designers: Mr Paul Honeywell has become managing director.

Norgren Maronair: Dr Trevor Lamb has been named chairman and Dr H G Cremer and Mr E Hene assistant managing directors. Other appointments to the board are: Mr J W J Derry, finance; Mr N Lee, technical; Mr R S Lewis, operations and Mr J B Madow, sales and marketing and Mr K J Jones, Mr G C Lowry and Mr P Slater become non-executive directors.

Berry Asset Management: Mr James Scoble has been made a non-executive director.

Stewart McColl: Mr Stefan Zachary has been made managing director.

Servotonic: Mr Stephen Bingham has become managing director.

Coats Viyella: Mr Alistair Macdiarmid becomes chairman of the Compton Webb Group division.

## COMPANY NEWS

● **EQUITY & GENERAL:** Total dividend 0.9p (same) for 1985. Turnover £22.14 million (£18.28 million). Pretax profit £405,000 (£558,000). Earnings per share 1.07p (1.98p).

● **THOMAS TILLING** (subsidiary of BTR): Turnover for 1985 £1.58 million (£1.53 million). Pretax profit £107 million (£128 million).

● **LOW & BONAR:** Bonar Inc, a subsidiary, has authorized a private placing of 100,000 common shares to an institutional investor and 300,000 common shares to Low & Bonar, at Can\$37.25 (£13) each, to raise Can\$10.9 million (£3.2 million). The proceeds will be used to reduce the debt of Bonar Inc.

● **HUNTING PETROLEUM SERVICES:** Vallance (Morley) has been bought for £325,000. This company, based at Morley near Leeds, supplies putties and mastics to the building and hardware trades.

● **ASDA-MFL:** The company is to buy Property Sellers - conditional on tax clearances from the Inland Revenue - for £1.5 million, subject to adjustment to reflect future profitability. Property Sellers runs ASDA property shops in some ASDA supermarkets on a concession basis.

● **REGENT MINING:** The company and Grants Patch Mining have agreed to form a joint venture at the Coliseum gold mine in California. Royal Resources, a US public company, is to provide \$7.5 million (£3.83 million) in return for a 25 per cent stake in the project.

Royal can exercise its option on an additional 24 per cent on or before November 15 next by contributing a further \$6.3 million.

● **DUNDEE & LONDON INVESTMENT TRUST:** Six months to April 30, 1986. Interim dividend 2.2p (2p), payable July 25. The board intends to recommend a final dividend of 1.4p (1.2p) for the year ended March 31, 1986.

● **IRISH ROPE:** Half-year to end-March. Pretax profit (£75,000 (£67,700), against a loss of £114,000. Sales £12.62 million (£12.78 million). Interim dividend of 1.8p (1.6p).

● **CENTREWAY INDUSTRIES:** Centreway Trucks has sold its Seddon-Atkinson truck dealership, which is based at Chadderton, Greater Manchester, for £185,000 in cash.

This will be used to reduce borrowings.

● **METAL BOX:** The company has launched a \$50 million (£33 million) bond issue, with equity warrants, under the lead management of Baring Brothers. These bonds, which mature on July 15, 1993, will have an annual interest coupon of 5 1/2 per cent and will be issued at 100 per cent. Each bond will be issued with 33 warrants, each of which will entitle the holder to subscribe for one ordinary share at 77p.

● **MEADOW FARM PRODUCE:** Year to March 28, 1986. Total dividend 3.8p (2.3p, adjusted). Turnover £24.15 million (£18.69 million). Pretax profit £2.57 million (£1.51 million). Meadow Farm plans to raise £1.2 million by a two-for-five rights issue at 200p a share. It has also agreed to buy North Devon Meat for £1.7 million in cash and will also provide £2.9 million for North Devon to redeem its loan stocks and repay the livestock levy.

● **BELHAVEN BREWERY:** Year to March 31, 1986. Total dividend 0.83p (0.75p). Turnover £13 million (£11.28 million). Pretax profit £1.31 million (£1.35 million). Earnings per share 4.67p (4.53p).

● **GRAINGER TRUST:** Six

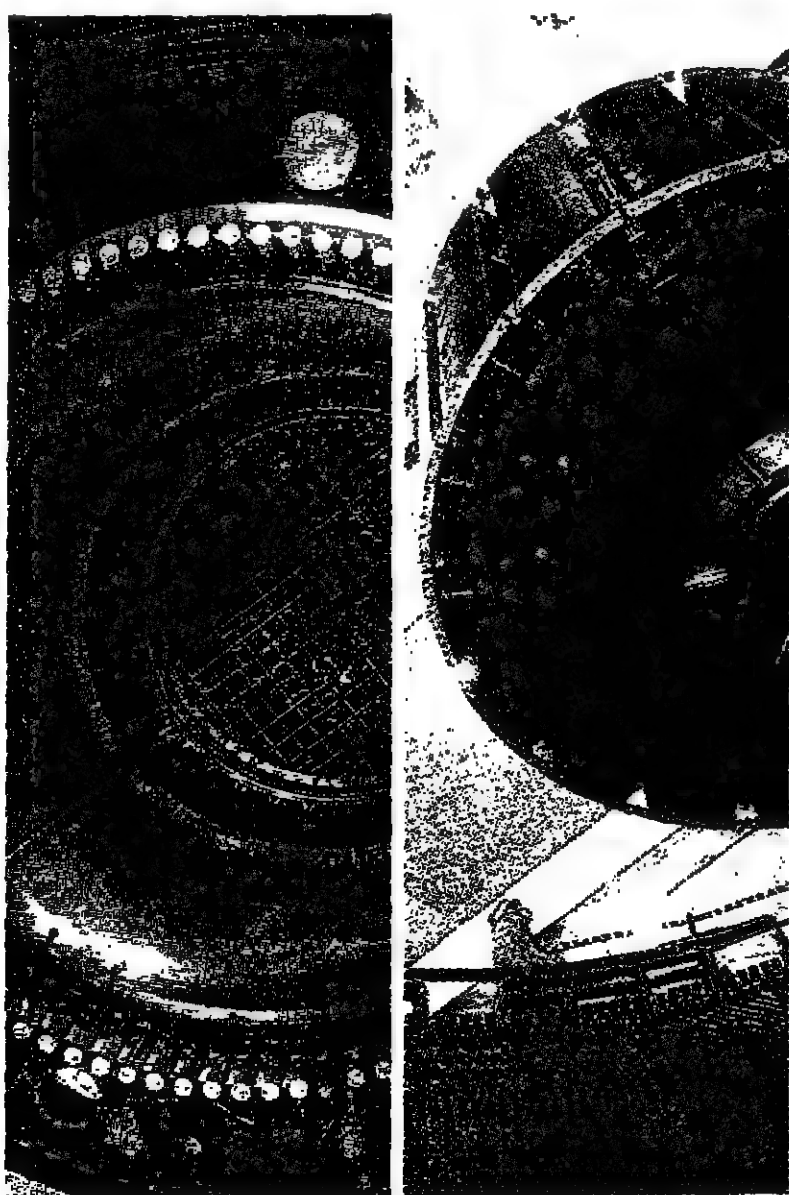
months to March 31, 1986. Interim dividend 1.8p (1.5p), payable on July 25. The board expects to recommend a total of not less than 7.8p (6.5p last time). Turnover £3.3 million (£2.04 million). Pretax profit £1.06 million (£842,000). Earnings per share 13.5p (10.7p).

● **BRITISH DREDGING:** At an extraordinary meeting, shareholders approved an order for the purchase of a new sand dredger, costing about £3.5 million. The board expects it to enter service with the company's fleet during the second half of 1987.

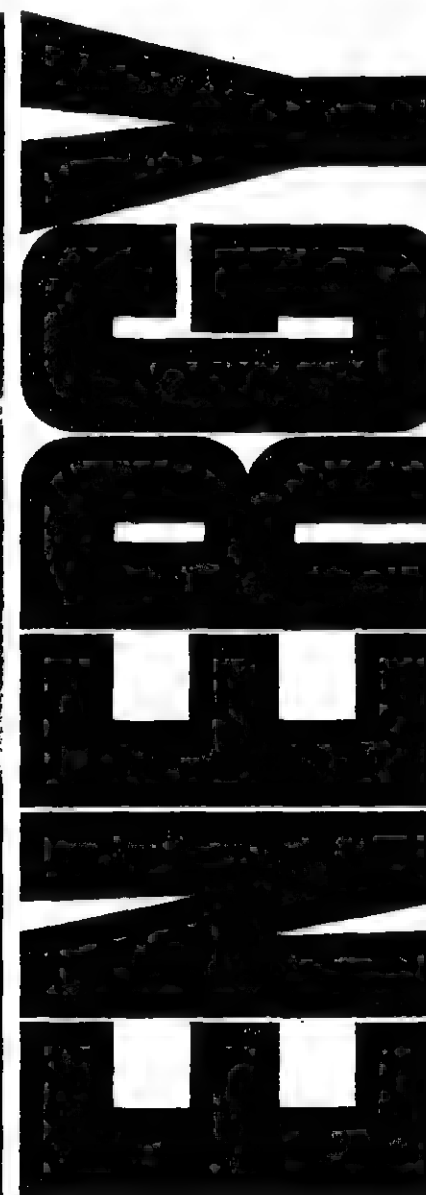
● **THOMAS LOCKER (HOLDINGS):** Mr B J Pitchford, the chairman, reports in his annual statement that there has definitely been a levelling out in trading conditions, both at home and abroad. However, with the manufacturing improvements the company has made and providing there is no deterioration in demand the board expects improved results.

● **ASSOCIATED BRITISH FOODS:** Mr Garry Weston, the chairman, told the annual meeting that operations during the first 10 weeks of the current year were on target and that profit budgets are aimed at further growth.

Generating energy is not simply providing kilowatts. It must be provided in quantity, safely, efficiently and in an agreeable environment.



Hitachi's wide-ranging technologies in energy (from left to right) nuclear power reactor, generator-motor, laser-test of LPG gas combustion, and nuclear fusion plasma testing device.



The world's need for energy continues to burgeon; and our wish to live in safe, peaceful and unspoiled surroundings remains as strong as ever. Here is how we are working towards achieving these twin goals.

Hitachi's scientists are making tremendous progress in nuclear fusion, often called "harnessing the power of the sun". Nuclear fusion also has been called the ultimate energy source because it is generated by a mechanism similar to that of the sun. One gram of the fuel—hydrogen, deuterium and tritium—generates the same energy as 8 tons (a tank truck-full) of oil.

Recently, Hitachi played a major role in a landmark feasibility experiment conducted by the Japan Atomic Energy Research Institute. The experiment succeeded in producing the first plasma for nuclear fusion—and brings us much closer to having this energy source 'on line' early in the next century.

Since Hitachi's beginnings three-quarters of a century ago, we've become a premier developer of many energy sources. Besides hydroelectric and thermal power plants, we've been in nuclear power more than 30 years.

We are also working on solar energy, coal gasification, and new types of batteries and fuel cells.

We link technology to human needs. We believe that Hitachi's advanced technologies will lead to systems that are highly productive and efficient yet eminently safe and comfortable. Our goal in energy—and communications, transportation and consumer electronics as well—is to build products and systems that will improve the quality of life the world around.



**HITACHI**



## COMMODITIES REVIEW

## South African silence on everything golden

At the turn of the decade, when the price of gold was heading towards \$800 an ounce in leaps and bounds, Reuters news agency took the trouble to correct a report it had issued on the rapidly waning health of President Tito of Yugoslavia. A translation error, Reuters reported in all gravity, meant the earlier dispatch had erred in saying that President Tito had managed to get out of bed. The true story was that after many days of almost total incapacity, he had at last been able to sit up in bed.

It is not recorded whether the gold price leapt dramatically after the Reuters medical bulletin had been set straight. But it neatly encapsulated an era when the merest hint that a key player on the world stage might be about to speak his exit line could provoke a sharp reaction on the bullion markets.

Today, the world is a very different place. The Russians remain in Afghanistan but the American hostages are back home and the oil market has fallen apart. More importantly, a six-year spell of positive real interest rates in most of the Western world has crushed inflation and knocked the stuffing out of gold as a hedge against the falling value of monetary investments.

The result has been that gold—around \$340 an ounce—now reacts to global political developments with all the vigour that an octogenarian can summon up against a bouncer from Michael Holding. Whether it is an Indian or Egyptian head of state being assassinated or President Reagan bringing his "stand still" policy to bear on the cities of Libya, the gold market has scarcely batted an eyelid.

The story has been repeated in recent weeks as South Africa, the world's largest gold storehouse, has erupted in political unrest of such magnitude that the government has seen fit to impose a state of emergency not seen in the West outside of a world war.

There is little point in wasting energy bemoaning this change in the volatility of gold (unless, of course, you happen to be one of the "apocalypse later" gold bugs hiding out with your stock of bullion bars in a nuclear-proof bunker). The market is meant to be the final arbiter in these matters and it might be worth applauding a drop in the hysteria level which in any case usually attracts charges of vultures preying on the misfortunes of others.

However, the situation in South Africa now is perhaps slightly different and deserves some second thoughts. In a world accustomed to instant communications and a paucity of information sources, the most fundamental difference is that the level of uncertainty about events there is extremely high and increasing by the day. The government's news blackout applies as much to events in and around the gold mines of Transvaal and the Orange Free State as to Soweto, Crossroads and the smoggy black townships of the eastern Cape.

If there was an uprising of black miners which halted production yesterday, say the Kloof or Venterspost mines, we would not know. If a bomb put the President Steyn mine out of commission for three months, we would also be none the wiser. The Pretoria government has promised to maintain the media gap until it feels the spiralling violence that has shaken South Africa for almost two years has been brought under control.

By using its own criteria—and President P.W. Botha is not prepared to use anybody else's—it would be a fool who put money on a return to

normality on any particular date soon.

On top of that uncertainty, there is also the possibility that the tentative structure which passes for industrial relations in the South African mines could break down completely. It became apparent last week that Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, the general secretary of the black National Union of Mineworkers, had gone into hiding to avoid joining his many trade union colleagues who have been thrown into detention since the state of emergency was imposed.

Whether he succeeds in evading the security forces, Mr Ramaphosa is effectively out of action as far as his union is concerned at a time when wage talks with the Chamber of Mines are in progress. As usual, the two sides are miles apart. The NUM, which claims almost 250,000 members, is seeking a pay rise of 45 per cent from next week, while the chamber is offering between 12 and 17 per cent.

Even the chamber, a normally-conservative body, has expressed concern at the situation and rightly so. The state of emergency has disrupted the consultation process all along the line, between unions and employers as well as between union leaders and their members.

It is desperately difficult to predict what might happen at the mines should the state of emergency continue to sustain this industrial relations hiatus. It is possible to envisage the black miners, emboldened by the rising level of black unrest elsewhere in South Africa and without an effective leadership to temper their actions, trying to disrupt production.

Whatever transpires, there is a good chance that as far as the international gold markets are concerned, the development in South Africa will take place in conditions of imperfect information—perhaps the most vital ingredient of price volatility.

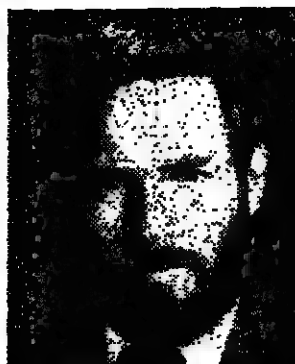
Richard Lander

## Tranwood dismisses Aitken warning

By Richard Lander

Mr Nick Oppenheim, the financier, yesterday dismissed a warning from Aitken Hume that his £22 million bid for the financial services group would run into insoluble problems in the United States.

In a letter to shareholders, Mr Tony Constance, Aitken Hume's chief executive, said American financial regula-



Nick Oppenheim: no change of control

tions meant that NSR, Aitken's valuable American subsidiary, would lose its entire management business if control changed hands. Appointment of new investment advisers by NSR's independent directors could take four to six months, the letter continued.

Although Mr Oppenheim's company, Tranwood, has made the resolution of NSR's affairs a condition of the bid, Mr Constance said the independent directors would not even consider the bid until it was wholly conditional and the contracts had ended.

"The only offer open to Tranwood is to waive the condition leaving us to risk the loss of NSR's entire business," the letter added.

However, Mr Oppenheim maintained yesterday that the bid would not involve a change of control as Aitken shareholders would own 90 per cent of Tranwood's shares. Even if control were to change, he said, Tranwood's American lawyers and financial advisers had suggested that the process of appointing investment advisers would take 8-9 weeks at the outside.

## Disjunctive 'and' invalidates trust

Attorney General of the Bahamas v Royal Trust Co and Another. Before Lord Keith of Kinkaid, Lord Templeman, Lord Griffiths, Lord Oliver of Aylmerston and Lord Goff of Chieveley. [Opinion given June 23]

A testamentary gift for the "education and welfare of Bahamian children and young people" did not constitute valid charitable trusts and was therefore void.

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council so held in dismissing an appeal by the Attorney General from the judgment of the Court of Appeal of the Bahamas on October 26, 1983 dismissing his appeal from part of the judgment of Chief Justice Blake on April 30, 1982, in the Supreme Court (Leahy v. Sidel), who in proceedings brought by the first respondent, the Royal Trust Co against, inter alia, the second respondent, Mr Ernest Raymond Lawson, and the Attorney General, declared that the trusts were void.

Mr George Newman, QC and Mr Jonathan Harvie for the Attorney General; Mr J.M. Chadwick, QC and Miss Lindsay Stewart for the second respondent; the first respondent did not appear and was not represented.

LORD OLIVER said that the question raised in the appeal arose from the provisions of clause 15 of the will of the testator, Mr Albert Edward Worswick, who died in 1953. As

varied by the third codicil, paragraph (1) of clause 15 provided:

"All the rest residue and remainder of my trust estate I direct to be paid over to (the trustees of his trust estate) upon trust to invest the same and in their absolute and uncontrolled discretion to use the income therefrom and any part of the capital thereof for any purposes for and for connected with the education and welfare of Bahamian children and young people."

By clause 16 he bequeathed the whole of the remainder of his personal estate to his widow absolutely.

The first respondent was now the sole trustee of the will and had rightly adopted an entirely neutral attitude on the appeal. The second respondent represented the estate of the testator's widow who died in 1968.

The sole question was the true construction of paragraph (1) and it was common ground between the parties that if the trusts declared therein were valid, the income and capital of the trust would be available for the education and welfare of Bahamian children and young people.

If the words "education and welfare" were to be construed disjunctively (that is, as embracing two distinct purposes), the appeal failed since the fund would then be capable of being applied in perpetuity to purposes some of which might be non-charitable.

Mr Newman contended on behalf of the Attorney General that, reading the will and the codicils as a whole, the true construction of the paragraph was one which involved reading the word "and" in its conjunctive sense, and so the only purposes for which the trust moneys were authorized to be disbursed by the paragraph were purposes which were not merely for the welfare of Bahamian children and young persons but were also educational.

To put it another way the word "education" limited the word "welfare" and there was one overall purpose of the trust and that was the purpose of educational welfare.

It was not easy to imagine a purpose connected with the education of a child which was not also a purpose for the child's welfare.

Thus if "welfare" was to be given any separate meaning at all, it had to be something different from and wider than mere education, for otherwise the words became otiose.

Mr Newman had submitted that, in the context of the paragraph as a whole, "welfare" was used in the sense of "welfare ancillary to education".

But "welfare" was a word of the widest import and when used in connection with a class of "children and young people" it was capable of embracing almost anything which would lead to the enhancement of the quality of life of any member of the class.

Mr Newman's difficulty then

was to find any context, either in the paragraph itself or in other parts of the will, for subordinating that wide concept to the object of education.

The difficulty was, however, compounded by the additional and not unimportant words "for any purposes for and/or connected with," for, if Mr Newman were otherwise able to link the word "welfare" with the preceding word "education" in a conjunctive sense, it would then be possible to find a purpose which was connected with "welfare" (used in that ancillary sense) which was not also "connected with" education, so that the reference to "welfare" would inevitably fall to be construed disjunctively.

It followed that the trusts in paragraph (1) did not constitute valid charitable trusts and that the residue of the trust estate fell into the residuary gift in clause 16.

Their Lordships recommended that the appeal should be dismissed.

Solicitors: Charles Russell & Co; Stephenson Harwood.

## Government officials must attest to notes

Multi Guarantee Co Ltd and Another v Cavalier Insurance Co Ltd. Before Mr Justice Knox. [Judgment given June 17]

Officials of the Department of Trade and Industry were required to produce documents in confidence by directors of Cavalier Insurance Co Ltd. Mr Justice Knox ruled in the Chancery Division on an application by the claimant for an order of subpoena duces tecum and of subpoena ad testificandum. His Lordship ordered the witnesses to attend, to produce the documents in question and to give evidence.

His Lordship so ruled on an application by the department, intervening in proceedings in which the plaintiffs, Multi Guarantee Co Ltd and Magnet Marketing Productions Ltd, were seeking certain documents and other relief against Cavalier Insurance Co Ltd, now in liquidation, and certain other defendants including former directors of Cavalier.

Mr John Mummery for the department; Mr John Chadwick, QC and Miss Elizabeth Glozier for the plaintiffs; Mr S. E. Brodie, QC and Miss Barbara Dohmann for the defendants.

MR JUSTICE KNOX said that the notes of the confidential meetings between Cavalier's directors and the officials of the Department of Trade and Industry, which certain passages blacked out, been disclosed to Cavalier's liquidator by the department. The Cavalier liquidator had disclosed such notes in the course of proceedings in the present proceedings, and it was common ground that Cavalier itself consented to such disclosure.

A point of law arose which was not covered by the authorities, and in particular Cavalier Insurance Corporation (UK) Ltd v Pine Top Insurance Ltd (1986) 1 Lloyd's Rep 8.

It was accepted that although public interest immunity could not be waived, it was capable of evaporating if the relevant con-

sents of persons involved in the giving and receiving of the information were given to its disclosure. What was in issue was just what consents were needed for the immunity to disappear.

Mr Chadwick contended that consents were needed from persons on whose behalf the information was given; a distinction had to be drawn between the situation where directors were giving information on behalf of a company, when it would be the company and not the directors whose consent was needed, and the situation where the directors were giving information in their individual capacity.

Mr Mummery said that the consent of anyone involved was needed, whether they were speaking or were merely present at the meetings in question, and that the basis of the doctrine of immunity was not the proprietary right of the person giving or receiving information but the protection of the public administration.

His Lordship preferred Mr Mummery's analysis. But once it was accepted that the immunity was not absolute, one necessarily postulated that the potential wells of information were likely to dry up were the basis of the doctrine of immunity was not the proprietary right of the person giving or receiving information but the protection of the public administration.

If therefore the immunity had, in any particular case, been severely eroded by partial disclosure, that was a matter which could and should be taken into account on the basis that a potential volunteer of information would not be deterred from giving information if he saw the court permitting disclosure of what was already lawfully disclosed.

If the cat had got all four legs out of the bag, there was little point in holding on to its tail. It was a matter of degree in any particular case.

Mr Mummery accepted that

the information was released to the Official Receiver in his capacity as liquidator to its disclosure. What was in issue was just what consents were needed for the immunity to disappear.

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## Acting in execution of office

Regina v Waltham Forest Justices, Ex parte Solanke. Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Purchas and Lord Justice Stirling. [Judgment given June 23]

A justice of the peace was acting in the execution of his office within the meaning of section 52 of the Justices of the Peace Act 1979 notwithstanding that he was acting in excess of jurisdiction.

The Court of Appeal so held when dismissing an appeal by the applicant, Mr Lapido Solanke, from Mr Justice Woolf (17 The Times January 12, 1985) who had found in favour of the Waltham Forest Justices that the damages payable to the applicant were limited under section 52 of the 1979 Act to one penny in respect of his constitutional right to a fair trial, but in good faith, for failure to pay maintenance to his former wife for their children.

Mr John Laws for the justices. THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the original High Court maintenance order had never been registered in the magistrates' court.

There had been no jurisdiction to order the applicant to pay arrears or to sentence him to imprisonment in default. He had had a valid complaint.

Section 44 applied to acts done by a justice within his jurisdiction. There was a query whether an action for such acts could be brought at all.

It was important to note the contrast between the words of section 52 "in the execution of his office" and the words of section 44 "in the execution of his duty".

"Office" would cover anything done without jurisdiction or in excess of jurisdiction, so that the section applied to acts done in excess of jurisdiction.

The justices were true, in the circumstances, the appeal failed.

Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor; Coward Chance; Herbert Oppenheimer, Nathan & Vandyk.

## Admitting similar fact evidence

Regina v Butler. Before Lord Justice Gildwell, Mr Justice Jupp and Sir Ralph Kilner Brown. [Reasons given June 20]

The particular facts alleged by the prosecution in relation to charges of indecent assault and rape bore a striking similarity to previous sexual behaviour which had taken place between the defendant and a former girlfriend, albeit with her consent, the girlfriend's evidence as to that behaviour was admissible under the "similar facts" principle as having positive probative value.

The Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) dismissed an appeal by the defendant, Dennis Butler, who was convicted upon two counts each of rape and indecent assault on October 28, 1983 at Oxford Crown Court, before Judge Leo Clark, QC and a jury, and sentenced to a total of eight years' imprisonment.

Mr J. C. Willis, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the defendant; Mr C. J. M. Tyrer for the Crown.

SIR RALPH KILNER BROWN, delivering the reserved reasons of the court for dismissing the appeal on June 13, said that at about 10.30 pm on November 18, 1982, Miss Butler, aged 19, was waiting at a bus stop in Oxford when a man said to be the defendant drew up in his car and asked her the way to Radley.

She offered to show him the way in return for a lift to her home. On the way he stopped the car and with one hand on the back of her head, he forced her down towards his lap, told her to undo the zip of his flies and insisted that she gave him oral sex and perform other indecent acts.

She did so because he said he had a knife and she was frightened. Having resumed their journey the defendant eventually came to halt in a farm driveway where he raped her.

He then dropped her near to her home. She later discovered that one of her ear-rings was missing.

At the police station she made a statement naming an innocent

man because, she said, it was indicated to her that she knew her attacker. She also falsely stated that she had been forced into the car because she had been scared that she would not be believed and would be criticized for accepting a lift from a stranger.

On forensic medical examination seminal stains which contained no spermatozoa were found on vaginal swabs taken from Miss W and on her clothes. Transferred to the defendant's trousers were found spermatozoa which the man concerned either had a disease or had undergone a vasectomy. The defendant had undergone such an operation several years earlier.

Tyre impressions matching the tyres of the defendant's car were found at the place where Miss W said the offence had occurred.

When the defendant's car was searched several months later in March 1983 by the scientific officer the missing ear-ring was found. The defendant was not arrested until February 1983 as a result of the complaint made by the second victim.

In February 1983, Miss C, then aged 19, was waiting at a bus stop in Oxford when a man, again said to be the defendant, pulled up in his car and asked her for directions and she agreed to show him the way in return for a lift home.

In an identical attack to that on Miss W, he forced her to have sexual intercourse with him by putting his hand on the back of her neck and telling her he had a knife and would use it.

He also performed other indecent acts on her and then stopped the car a little further on and raped her. After it was all over he drove off in the direction of her home and dropped her off.

She complained to the police and was able to describe the place where it happened and the sort of car used.

The defendant's car was found to be similar when he was arrested. He refused to go on an identification parade and in consequence confrontations were arranged.

Miss W failed to identify him

but Miss C recognized him, somewhat doubtfully, by his appearance. She was definitely shaken by his voice when he spoke.

When the defendant's car was examined, hairs which were microscopically similar to Miss C's were found.

Fibre samples from those found on her clothes and fibres similar to those from her clothes were found on the defendant's clothing. The number of fibres transferred indicated a fairly substantial contact between the respective wearers of the clothing.

Application was made to call a certain Mrs U as a prosecution witness and that was resisted by defence counsel. The judge ruled in favour of the application.

Mrs U gave evidence that she had had a sexual relationship with the defendant from summer 1978 when she was not quite 16 until December 1980.

Sexual behaviour occurred at times in his car. Oral sex was sometimes performed and then he would usually keep his hand on the back of her neck and compel her to perform acts similar to those which he had forced the victims to perform.

She also identified the scenes of the rapes as being places where she had been with the defendant for sexual purposes. She was a consenting party to all that occurred between them.

The first ground of appeal concerned the admissibility of the evidence of Mrs U which was admitted under the "similar facts" principle.

The principles which emerged from the various authorities could be summarised as follows. Evidence of similar facts might be admissible whether or not they tended to show commission of other offences.

That evidence might be admitted (a) if it tended to show that the accused had committed the particular crime with which he was charged; or (b) to support the identification of the accused as the man who committed the particular crime and in appropriate cases, to rebut the defence of alibi; or (c) to negative a

defence of accident or of innocent conduct.

There had been no established admissibility in law, the judge in the exercise of his discretion might refuse to admit the evidence if the prejudicial effect outweighed its probative value.

In the defendant's case the judge set out eight particular features in the evidence of Mrs U which the prosecution submitted showed a striking similarity to the offences with which the defendant was charged.

The judge rightly took the view that they were not only strikingly similar, but in their weight were very substantial indeed.

The defence submitted that because the acts performed with Mrs U were done with consent the judge was entitled to draw the same sort of acts which were done under compulsion. That argument was misconceived and the court rejected it.

Mrs U knew the defendant very well and there was no issue of identification so far as she was concerned. The defendant was also identified by Miss C. There was the finding of Miss W's ear-ring in the defendant's car.

There was no question of there being no link or of weak links in identification between the witness giving evidence of similar facts and the persons making the allegations of sexual assaults. The judge exercised his discretion carefully and properly.

Indeed when it came to the exercise of discretion, if the similar facts relied on did not constitute the commission of other offences there was likely to be less prejudicial effect than if they did.

The judge's ruling was in every respect entirely correct and there was no misdirection by the judge to the jury sufficient to raise any doubts whatsoever as to the correctness of the verdict.

Solicitor: Mr P. D. F. Hignett, Rochdale (formerly of Reading).

## Broad St plans quotation

Broad Street, the City public relations group, is planning to come to the stock market through a reverse takeover of Stanelco, the USM-quoted heating equipment firm, which yesterday suspended its shares at 70p while talks take place.

Headed by Mr Brian Basham, Broad Street handled the campaigns for United Biscuits and Argyll in their recent bid battles. The company is eager to come to the market and sees a tie-up with Stanelco as being quicker and cheaper than submitting to a full listing.

Stanelco is controlled by Mr Peter Boswick, a partner in Henderson, Crosswhite, the broker and Mr David Landau, a solicitor.

Mr Landau caused controversy last year when, as a non-executive director of Management Agency and Music (MAM) he refused to sign a circular being sent to shareholders proposing the merger with Chrysalis.

He said yesterday that, assuming a deal is agreed with Broad Street, there would be no repeat of that affair.

## German economy resumes growth after downturn

Frankfurt, (AP-Dow Jones) — Rising domestic demand, supported by falling oil prices, is helping the West German economy to grow after a first-quarter slump.

The Bundesbank, in its economic report for last month, said that the cold winter and the early Easter holidays sent the country's gross national product down by 1 per cent in the first quarter of 1985. GNP was still up 1.6 per cent from the first quarter of 1985.

After correcting these distortions, however, the Bundesbank said that GNP at least held the level of 1985's fourth quarter. Early indications for the period after April indicated that the economy was again growing.

Despite the softness of the first quarter, increasing employment levels were a significant sign of growth prospects, the Bundesbank said. The number employed rose by 80,000 from the fourth quarter of 1985, and gained 240,000 from a year earlier.

This showed that companies expected business expansion to continue, although the

employment gains "would not dent the country's unemployment total of about 2.1 million."

The Bundesbank said that economic growth was also carried increasingly by domestic demand for capital and consumer goods. The assertion comes in the wake of increasing pressure on West Germany and Japan to boost domestic demand through interest rate cuts and fiscal measures as a way of reducing large trade surpluses.

The Bundesbank cut its key discount lending rate to 3½ per cent from 4 per cent in March, but it has since avoided loosening monetary grips for fear of accelerating money supply growth, which is already well-above target.

The central bank said: "While the upward move in the area of domestic demand is unmistakable, the German export sector has for some time now lost its role as economic motor."

The decline in oil prices would further support domestic demand but it had also widened the country's trade surplus. Mark import prices for crude oil and oil products

had fallen by 46 per cent from December, 1985, to May, making a 7 per cent rise in import volume in the same period.

The bank said that, as a result, West Germans spent only about DM19 billion for their net energy imports in the first four months of 1986 or about a third less than a year earlier. The central bank projected that spending on oil and oil product imports for the year would be cut in half in 1986 from 1985's DM80 billion.

This meant that West German private households would spend an estimated DM15 billion less on energy this year, effectively allowing them an extra 1 per cent in spendable income.

The central bank added that, if import and export prices from early 1985 were used as a base, the foreign trade surplus in the first four months of the year would have shrunk by DM6 billion from a year earlier. At current prices, however, the trade surplus reportedly rose by DM13 billion to DM32 billion in the four months to May from a year earlier.

## James Cropper PLC

The following resolution was passed at a Board Meeting held today:

Resolved that the final dividend on the Ordinary Share Capital of 7.6% be recommended and, if approved, will be paid on the 14th August 1986 to shareholders on the register at the close of business on the 31st July 1986.

The following are the unaudited preliminary figures for the year ended 29th March 1986:

Profit and Loss Account (Historical Basis)

	1986 £'000	1985 £'000
Turnover	27,482	25,138
Operating Profit	2,458	1,228
Interest	638	465
Profit before taxation	1,820	763
Taxation	47	39
Profit after taxation	1,773	724
Dividends:		
Interim - 3.4% (1985 2.4%)	34	24
Proposed Final - 7.6% (1985 6.6%)	77	66
Amount set aside to reserves	1,662	634
Earnings per share of 25p	44.2p	18.1p

The record profits have been achieved through further increases in turnover and output, and the cost of raw materials returning to a more normal level.

Currently the Company has a full order book and margins have been maintained despite increases in raw material costs. Once the disruption from rebuilding No.2 Machine has been absorbed the prospects are that turnover and output will further increase this year, which should benefit results.

The



# Portfolio Gold

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches, you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Allied Irish	Banking	0.00
2	Ellis & Goldstein	Draperies	0.00
3	Munk (A)	Building	0.00
4	Hill Samuel	Banking	0.00
5	Lavender (Walter)	Building	0.00
6	Perkinson	Building	0.00
7	Grafton	Draperies	0.00
8	Brent Chemis	Chemicals	0.00
9	Ward	Draperies	0.00
10	Bremner	Draperies	0.00
11	M. Hogg	Industrial L.R.	0.00
12	Johnson	Industrial E.K.	0.00
13	Farmer (H)	Industrial E.K.	0.00
14	Colquhoun	Industrial A-D	0.00
15	Low & Bonar	Industrial L.R.	0.00
16	Conall	Industrial A-D	0.00
17	Forthright & Harrow	Industrial E.K.	0.00
18	Marshall (Laurie)	Industrial L.R.	0.00
19	Eurotherm	Electricals	0.00
20	Shorrock	Electricals	0.00
21	Scott & Robertson	Industrial S-Z	0.00
22	Sunlight Serv	Industrial S-Z	0.00
23	Spirax-Sarco	Industrial S-Z	0.00
24	Charter Cons	Industrial A-D	0.00
25	Price of W. Hogg	Industrial A-D	0.00
26	Bernard (S.W.)	Industrial A-D	0.00
27	Somerville	Food	0.00
28	Assoc. Fisheries	Food	0.00
29	TNT	Industrial S-Z	0.00
30	MK Elect	Electricals	0.00
31	Chibaud	Electricals	0.00
32	Battie (James) A	Draperies	0.00
33	Bank of Scotland	Banking	0.00
34	House of Lerock	Draperies	0.00
35	Travis & Arnold	Building	0.00
36	Transthane Forte	Food	0.00
37	Newmarket	Finance Land	0.00
38	Barham	Industrial A-D	0.00
39	Mathews (Bernard)	Food	0.00
40	RHM	Food	0.00
41	Salven (Cham)	Food	0.00
42	Antocher (Henry)	Draperies	0.00
43	Oliver (G)	Draperies	0.00
44	Melrose	Industrial L.R.	0.00
45	W. Hogg Newspapers Ltd.	Daily Total	0.00

Please be sure to take account of any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8.00 on Saturday's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

## BRITISH FUNDS

1986	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss
1	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
2	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
3	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
4	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
5	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
6	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
7	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
8	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
9	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
10	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
11	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
12	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
13	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
14	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
15	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
16	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
17	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
18	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
19	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
20	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
21	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
22	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
23	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
24	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
25	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
26	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
27	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
28	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
29	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
30	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
31	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
32	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
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45	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
46	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
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81	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
82	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
83	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
84	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
85	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
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89	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
90	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
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92	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
93	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
94	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
95	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
96	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
97	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
98	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
99	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5
100	100	95	100	95	-5	-5	-5

## FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

1986	103	Trans	1982	118	11	9	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
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## A tight watch on your account

Technically it is possible for a bank branch to dial direct to the head office mainframe computer to obtain information. This can give a better service for customers.

Most banks will now provide information at the tellers window, but this will be the balance as of last night when the batch processing run was done. Although the information can be retrieved from the bank's mainframe computer there are problems of access and confidentiality which must be solved before "anyone" can be given access to the system.

Tandem Computers is one of the leading bank suppliers and, according to its spokesman Peter Robinson, "Security can be split into two parts, internal and external. Information leaving the files and people accessing the files. For users accessing the files there is a multi-layer password system which starts with access to the system, then to the specific file. Access to any file can be for a variety of reasons. To view, update or change the information. The entry levels are different in each case. There must also be a record - audit trail - of the users accessing files even if they have been permitted by the system."

For information moving from the system to another computer there is the problem of hackers who may be able to intercept the data.

All information leaving the Tandem system is encrypted - coded so that it looks like gobbledygook - to protect the data from unauthorized access.

Harold Stokes of APACS - the Association for Payment Clearance Services set up by

the clearing banks - is involved in this area and believes that security is far more important than the technology.

As banks interchange information between themselves there must be published techniques of information change. Equally, there must be audit trails to check who has accessed the computer and for what reason.

Any system of on-line processing must, says Mr Stokes, "Fit into the banking timetable where everything has a place." There has been direct connection to the banks for the BACS - Bankers' Automated Clearing Service - which provides an automated service for banks and their corporate customers for the transmission of money between accounts within the UK banking system. BACS has been operating for 15 years and is operated by the major clearers.

The banks have pressures from the public, the major finance houses and the building societies to improve their services or lose business. There is a new class of non-bank user who does not need an account because they deal with a building society, have a mortgage, a cheque account and interest on their current account.

Apart from the competitive situation the on-line system would enable the banks to charge for every service and make their operation more profitable. But to do so would mean a multi-million pound investment. The technology is here, but will the banks achieve the financial return to make it worthwhile?

Neville Ian Ash

## Costs hold up the armchair service

Like old age home banking is inevitable but nobody wants to get there first, or that appears to be the view of most banks and building societies. Although the Homelink scheme was pioneered by the Nottingham Building Society and the Bank of Scotland more than three years ago, rivals have not yet followed suit.

Most are experimenting with pilot schemes that allow customers to manage their money online using videodata terminals, but few can see any commercial advantage in launching a service before the demand has been established. Setting up costs are the main deterrent for the larger banks and building societies; not only in providing or subsidizing customers' access equipment but also in presenting their main - usually large - customer databases for online access by account holders. Organizations with an established national branch network also see no point in duplicating activities.

But to the Nottingham Building Society, operating within an 80-mile area, electronic services were the most viable alternative to opening branches for nationwide expansion. "It was not a question of having the money to open new branches - this traditional way of growth was closed for us because the whole expansion strategy has changed," said Tom Littlefair, assistant general manager at the Nottingham.

"It is arguable whether there are too many building society branches in the high street where everybody is offering similar products. Planners won't allow service-type industries into new areas. We want butchers or flower shops instead. Statistics for other societies show that branch expansion has slowed down almost to a stop.

"We didn't really cost justify the exercise, although if we had set up a branch network all over the country it would have cost us 20 times what it has cost to set up Homelink," he said.

Homelink was launched in November 1982, offering anyone investing £1,000 or more in the Nottingham online money management and teleshopping via Prestel, plus a Bank of Scotland Visa card. Since the launch the emphasis on teleshopping has gone (poached by Prestel) and the Bank of Scotland introduced an independent Home Banking Service in January 1985, extending it to office banking last February.

Customers dial into Prestel using an adaptor to connect their television sets to the main Prestel computers, then go through a gateway to reach either Homelink or HOBS.

Obviously a banking service could not function without local facilities for paying in cheques and drawing cash, so the Bank of Scotland has a reciprocal arrangement with Barclays Bank for use of cash dispensers and Homelink with Barclays and Thomas Cook offices.

The arrival of further home banking services might sound the death of the branch as we know it, says David Bayliss, manager of electronic banking development at Midland Bank. "The nature of branches may well change. In the long term there will be greater emphasis on self service of all kinds and we will certainly see unmanned branches. But you cannot ignore the fact that the branch network is a very important sales force," he said.

Midland Bank has been running a trial service for more than two years. The trial system has only 1,500 customers on its database, but eventually the



Fingerp dealing: The touch-sensitive system from International Banking Systems

Midland may face supporting all of its 4.5 million customers online.

Analysis of Homelink usage shows that customers do take full advantage of a 24-hour service. During the day traffic is light but consistent, building up at 6 pm when Prestel calls become free. Peak time is at weekends and between 7.30pm to 10pm during the week, dying away by 2am. But there are still a few insomniacs dabbling with their accounts throughout the night, according to Mr Littlefair.

Barclays has had a small, remote banking experiment running for about 18 months, involving members of staff. The success of this venture prompted the bank to widen the experiment to 40 small business customers nationwide, in January this year. Both projects are hosted on Prestel.

"Home banking is clearly part of our plans because all banks are moving into the 24-

hour arena and we are now going through a period of positioning for the 1990s," said Mr Bayliss.

Mr West admits that it, too, is investigating home banking, but Lloyds Bank believes that "start-up costs for the consumer outweigh the

**The nature of branches may well change**

advantages", said a spokeswoman. But Lloyds can see the potential for small businesses.

Another dissenter on the home front is the Bradford & Bingley Building Society. "We have no plans to introduce home banking. We don't think it's appropriate because we don't believe it is a service our members want," said the society, a view endorsed by the research and statistics manager, Liz Boyes-Watson. "There

has been no research into home banking - with only 1,500,000 investors it would be far too expensive. We wouldn't even consider it and I find it hard to understand how a small society such as the Nottingham can justify it," she said.

Abbey National is also cautious about launching a public service, although it has been developing a videodata system in-house for the past three years. As Abbey National's transaction account manager, John Smith, points out: "One of the main indicators of how successful it would be is that only about 65,000 out of several million television sets have Prestel, and more than 50 per cent have it for business use."

Nevertheless, he promises that "when the time comes, we'll be there" and Abbey National is already giving young savers a taste of the future.

Schoolchildren in the Soli-

hull area are participating in a School Banking project set up by Viewtel Services on the society's behalf. Based on Prestel, the service offers each child a building society account for saving up for school trips and outings, and has been running for a year with limited success.

"The biggest problem has been the teachers' dispute. Children are very excited about the scheme but teachers have been refusing to operate it," said Peter Young, director of Viewtel Services, a company set up by the Birmingham Post and Mail in 1980 to provide electronic services to the public.

Mr Young believes that home banking needs to be packaged with other services and access hardware to stand a good chance of success. "The biggest hold-up is terminal equipment. I would like to see someone like British Telecom provide everyone with a terminal, like the French. If BT doesn't, then other commercial organizations who would gain some advantage, such as the mail order companies, will probably provide them over the next 12-18 months," he said.

Ian Graham, manager of Automated Customer Services at the Bank of Scotland is awaiting the opposition with interest, and more than a little confidence. "If you're going to be second into the market your product has to be at least as good as the first. We'll have to wait and see what they have to offer but I'm quite confident that HOBS will be difficult to beat," he said.

If the other building societies and banks continue with their current "toe in the water" approach it could be some time before he is proved either right or wrong.

MM

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## Countdown to October

Deregulation of dealings in the City of London take effect from October 27, 1986 and the interim provides an opportunity for computer companies to make sales and time for banks to gear themselves up for the Big Bang.

Roger Hunt, of PA Management Consultants, says: "Big Bang really means three things: Deregulation; competition; and globalization with 24-hour trading activities." Banks are forming conglomerates which include estate agents, dealers and almost every type of financial service.

"The banks have the choice to buy an off-the-shelf system or create one just for that specific operation. Some banks are installing

**Millions of pounds are being invested in systems**

forms of expert system to help their dealers. Information can be presented to dealers in a certain sequence and can be manipulated to save time. Pages from information systems can be selected and time is of the essence," says Mr Hunt.

Several hundred million pounds is being invested in systems for the Big Bang and Mr Hunt believes 10 per cent will be spent on the competitive edge and 90 per cent on the standard system.

The requirements for any banking system to work with the Big Bang are:

- Flexibility - to be able to deal with rapid expansion without changing the complete system or going beyond its capabilities.
- Fault tolerance - having redundant circuits so that any fault is covered by a duplicate circuit.
- Powerful networking - to allow transparent operation between London, New York and Tokyo.
- Ability to link - with other manufacturers equipment and information services. This means gateways that give access to non-compatible computer systems.
- Ability to expand - dramatically without replacing all the equipment. Expanding by linking two or more systems together.

Several manufacturers have some of these requirements but few can cope with all of them. The main suppliers for the Big Bang include IBM, Tandem, ICL, ITL, DEC, Nixdorf, Wang and Stratus.

One of the problems facing banks implementing facilities for the Big Bang is the lack of practical working knowledge. While banks may have pilot studies, they will not be the same as real life applications. Before the Big

Bang, the London Stock Exchange's own in-house information system, Topic, has been down for 10 minutes and there have been faults in the options market computers. While this is serious before Big Bang it will be crucial once the system is totally electronic.

Information systems are gearing up to meet this new demand. Reuters has started a new system called ART - Advanced Reuters Terminal. This enables users to see up to five different Reuters screens at the same time. The system uses Microsoft Windows and an ART has the power to 10 conventional Reuters terminals. Midland Bank has installed a system using Microsoft Windows, called SuperDORIS providing up-to-the-minute foreign currency information.

A combination of an American company and a Swiss corporation have introduced a dealing system which is claimed to be the first to offer calculations, external information and deal capturing facilities in a single unit, called Dealers Choice. It has already been sold to Morgan Grenfell and is based on the IBM PC-AT.

Clive Pedder, City manager for Tandem Computers believes, "The practical gain will be in research and advice, making the right information available to dealers. It is a decision support situation."

ITL is working with NMW Computers of Nantwich and Timon to produce complete packages of computers and programs for the Big Bang.

Midland Bank has installed an Artemis project management program purely to handle the multi-million pound replacement of the bank's retail computing systems.

Even the Stock Exchange believes that although the companies have geared up for the

### The Big Bang will have a polarizing effect

Big Bang they will be faced with four major problems: The equipment will be expected to work first time - which is unlikely; there will be technical problems; the pilot studies that have been done are too short; and many companies will be working from the backs of envelopes on October 27.

Mr Hunt says: "The Big Bang will have a polarizing effect. There will be 10 to 12 major financial conglomerates offering the full range of facilities, with a number of small niche providers. But there won't be anything in between."

NIA

### Hi-tech tellers

estimated to represent more than 90 per cent of transactions performed at ATMs, banks are rapidly recognizing that they must separate the cash dispensing side of an ATM's facilities from the more sophisticated functions. Thus, as banks design their "branch of the future" they are placing the straightforward cash dispensing machines at the front of the lobby for easy access.

The major suppliers also see the future ATMs as providing more sophisticated services, separated from the cash dispensing function. Nixdorf Computer is only one supplier which has launched a range of customer self-service terminals which are operated by a customer's card and designed for open plan banking lobbies.

The range includes a dual-sided ATM, where the side that is situated outside the branch may be operated independently of the lobby side. The bank can therefore provide a 24-hour service and an extra cash dispensing facility within the branch.

One challenge which the banks are facing from the integration of automated teller machines into basic banking functions is how to use staff no longer needed to perform counter transactions.

The obvious answer is to retrain them to sell other services, to advise customers, to act in a marketing role, and increase business for the bank. Although we are still some way off from this scenario, it is an important consideration for the banks, which cannot afford to both install expensive technology and maintain a high number of human cashiers.

The resources of existing staff are needed to promote services such as mortgages, insurance, personal loans and recently, the move into selling shares through bank branches. It will require a concerted effort by the banks to train staff to meet these needs. Without them they stand to lose to competitors.

However, they have a fine line to draw between automating basic banking facilities in the name of efficiency and economy and risking alienating their customers; the human face still holds a great attraction.

ES



to October



IBM is a trade mark of International Business Machines Corporation. Prices quoted include monochrome monitor and are recommended retail prices excluding VAT. Colour monitor is additional price option for £299.







Edited by Matthew May

## COMPUTER HORIZONS/1

# Why the micro will never extinguish ink

By Richard Platt

A current craze among computer pundits is to predict the demise of the printed word. Soon, they tell us, our daily papers will be beamed down by telephone line, satellite dish and optical fibre and we will browse at leisure on the screen of a home computer. No more ink fingers and wave goodbye to the paperboy.

Letters will go the same way, as snail mail is replaced by its electronic counterpart. The postman joins the paperboy in the dole queue.

Books and encyclopaedias will get the treatment, too, we're told. Away with the dusty tomes in gold-embossed binding. In future we'll just type in the subject that interests us and, after a brief buzz from a computer version of the compact disc, a list of relevant entries appears on screen.

But how realistic is this dream of electronic information and correspondence? How soon will we begin to burn our libraries?

Rest assured, in all probability it will never happen. Such glowing predictions of an electronic future overlook several fundamental considerations about the virtues of ink on paper, and about the way

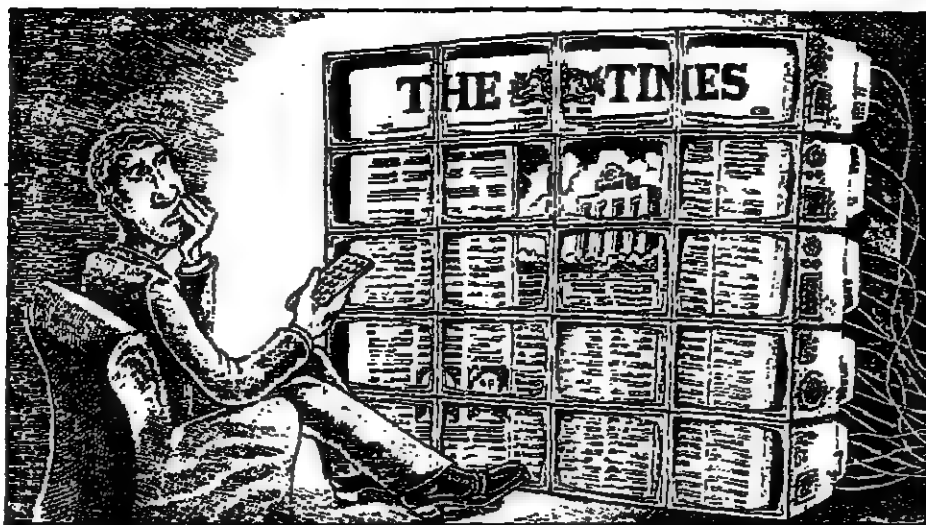
we compile, absorb and collect information.

Consider first the sheer practical problems of reading a newspaper on the screen of one of today's micros. An average page of *The Times* has on it about 160 columns inches of text, headings and advertising copy. If this was displayed in exact facsimile on a conventional computer terminal, it would occupy about 27 screens.

Browsing through the whole newspaper would mean pressing the key to display the next screen about 1,000 times. The *Sunday Times* would need several thousand screens. Of course this is a simplistic argument, because we don't read all pages in equal detail.

Most of us simply turn quickly to the topics that interest us most and then scan the other pages briefly. Certainly an electronic index could rapidly bring the racing results or stock market closing prices into view in nanoseconds, but this would not please the advertisers who rely on catching the eye of the browsing reader.

There are other more subtle problems concerned with the creation and absorption of text on screen. Books, magazines and newspapers can be



cross-referenced easily — it's possible to turn quickly from one page to another and slip in scraps of paper/vanilla pods/pencils to mark each reference.

You can even have four books open on a table top simultaneously. Windowing on a computer partly repro-

duces this flip-through capability, but has one severe drawback: if you split your screen into two windows you only get half as much text in each.

## Human nature is biggest obstacle

Creating new text reveals more of the micro's drawbacks. Anyone familiar with a word-processing program knows the BIOS syndrome — Blunders Invisible On Screen. Text that looks perfect in glowing green letters turns out once printed to contain vari-

ous errors — some words are repeated, others omitted; the same phrase with only minor variations occurs three or four times in a short passage.

These mistakes are easy to overlook on the VDU and no programme can pick stylistically bad — but perfectly grammatical — repetition of sentence structures.

## Putting a price on vital knowledge

It may seem something of a truism, but knowledge is an asset. Not too many companies behave as though they actually appreciate this fact, however. Within their organizations there are individuals who know and understand everything about a small part of a company's operations, but that knowledge is usually locked inside their heads.

Getting it out into the open so that others can use it is an increasingly important factor in these competitive days. Locked inside someone's head, knowledge becomes useful only so long as that individual remains working with, and committed to, an organization.

Obtaining and storing that knowledge calls for just the right tools for the job; it also calls for the right individual with the right function within an organization. For a

company to survive in the ideal position of being able to select which type of system, both generally and specifically, a company should purchase. This, for example, already revolves around choices such as selecting between a system specifically tailored for its application, or a shell program which the users tailor themselves.

The job of information officer also involves working with the individual experts within a company to ensure that their knowledge is correctly captured in a useable form. Part of this job will inevitably involve solving the worries such individuals will have about their future job prospects. There is already evidence to suggest that some become particularly reluctant to part with their knowledge through the natural fear that doing so will lead to their eventual and inevitable redundancy.

## JOB SCENE

By Martin Banks

As a counter to this, there is also a growing body of evidence in the US which shows that such experts' status and value can actually be enhanced by expert systems — because, the argument goes, the systems can be used to perform tasks of relatively low complexity, thus freeing human experts to concentrate on more difficult problems.

At present, though many companies may appreciate the asset value of the knowledge they hold, there is no way of quantifying it to the point where it can appear in the balance sheet, except perhaps as the ubiquitous goodwill in the sale price of a going concern.

Such a quantification may come from an information officer's ability to make it transparent, debuggable, permanent and distributable. As one wit at a recent artificial intelligence seminar put it: "Companies often can't quantify knowledge until they screw-up". The size and cost of the screw-up equals an exact value of the knowledge required. And if that knowledge was found by an information officer to have been in the company already, then he would have earned his pay, even if a little belatedly.

The information officer is fast becoming one of the key individuals in the use and exploitation of expert systems directly involved in establishing the environment for such systems within a company and selecting which are suitable tools for the company to utilize.

Expert systems themselves are just now starting to appear

# This is your life, and all on a plastic card

By David Gaest

The tendency of technology to run ahead of society's ability to control it is amply illustrated by a device that could soon become commonplace.

The Drexler laser card, which is of last week numbers Olivetti among its 23 likely suppliers, is a bank-card sized piece of plastic capable of storing enormous volumes of personal data.

Unless different agencies issue separate cards, each with 95 per cent of the space vacant, a laser card will say more about you than money ever could. The technology involved is already impressive and it will certainly be refined.

It is intended to be carried around, but people who do so may be vulnerable on two counts. The first is straightforward theft. Peter Jenner, a senior consultant with PA Computers and Telecommunications, says information should only be stored on laser cards in code.

He points out that one card is capable of holding two million characters of information — about 500 pages of type, a substantial autobiography. But whereas the cards represent technology at its most baffling, card-reading devices are small, with the dimensions of a tape-cassette recorder, and they plug into ordinary, personal computers.

Cards holding medical data, bank account records or other personal information could be a gold mine to a moderately enterprising criminal.

Security is an issue throughout the computer industry and encryption — where only those who hold the key can use the data — is a clear requirement for this type of storage medium. But encryption puts prices up and when suppliers are trying to establish themselves in a new market it can become a disagreeable feature.

The cards may hold part of the answer. Because of their capacity, digitized renderings of the card-holder's signature, picture, and even fingerprint can be held without taking much more than five per cent of the available space.

The signature occupies 2,000 to 5,000 characters, the picture 10,000 to 50,000, and the fingerprint 5,000 to 10,000. These could be used to authenticate transactions involving the card. But the relentless drive for progress will increase the security problem.

Mr Jenner said: "These are early days. Once the readers become commonplace you will have things like phone links." As hackers have shown, telephone lines are tunnels under the fortifications of computer systems.

The laser card's inventor, Drexler Technology of Cali-

fornia, sees the less sensitive technique of electronic publishing as one of the card's main uses, and Robert Maxwell's British Printing and Communications is one of the licensees.

But the other major user Drexler picks out is highly sensitive — for medical data — and a spokeswoman said that law enforcement agencies were interested in the cards as, for example, driver's licences.

There has always been the possibility of this type of card becoming a kind of back-door identity card or internal passport. An ordinary credit card can provide a simple record of its holder's movements, but a laser card could theoretically combine this with credit ratings, records of motorist and perhaps of other offences, and medical records.

The card is as slim as a bank card, can withstand being flexed, and needs only a paper sleeve for protection. Drexler looks forward to cards that will have five times the capacity of its present model and to card-readers that will operate much more quickly than those in use now.

Although more expensive to produce than bank cards, its capacity already makes it much cheaper in the volume of information it holds. Many of the world's leading technology companies are committed to ensuring that it happens.

## Screening through the family pics

Canon says it will begin marketing a filmless still camera that captures images with a computer chip and plays them back over a television screen. The system, which should be on sale by August, will allow a photographer to send pictures over telephone lines and the images can be reproduced using an ink-jet printer. Sony and Hitachi are also expected to enter the market soon.

Canon's electronic camera looks and acts much like a conventional 35mm camera, but instead of film, the image is captured on a special kind of chip called a charge-coupled device. The chip passes the signal to a two-inch floppy disk.

Prices are high — the camera alone, without a lens, is over £1,700. Professional photographers could use an electronic camera when there is no other way to get the picture home in time. Noting that news magazines sometimes transport colour film by chartered jet, Canon spokesman Dave Metz said: "This machine costs a lot less than a Lear jet. So it is very practical."

Retrieving electronic information may be more efficient, but it eliminates these small diversions that make research so guiltily enjoyable. Finally, there's the sheer pleasure of reading and writing in the conventional way.

The beauty and tactile attractions of a half-bound folio volume are clear to anyone, but there's pleasure to be had from even the lowliest paperback or trashy magazine.

What sensuous qualities does the home computer have that can compare with the smell of paper and ink, and the pleasure of folding back the cover of a penny dreadful at the start of a long train journey?

The electronic revolution may be just around the corner, but I for one won't be sending my Christmas cards by E-mail and I can't really see my mum reading Mills and Boon on a laptop micro.

**EEC funding sought**  
The European Community is spending too much on cows and too little on computers. Peter Bonfield, chairman of ICL, complained last week. He was commenting on the British Government's reluctance to back proposals for additional funding for the EEC's information technology research programmes. But he said this did not mean that European computer companies should merge in one huge corporation, as some EEC officials have proposed, to counter market dominance by the US giant IBM. Britain, backed mainly by its cost-cutting ally West Germany, is opposing proposals by the European Commission significantly to boost spending on new technologies. Commission President Jacques Delors has proposed doubling technology spending to around six per cent of the budget, compared to over two thirds spent on farm subsidies.

**Singapore clampdown**  
Singapore has enforced stricter controls on militarily sensitive imports following pressure from the United States to ensure they are not passed to the Soviet bloc. Singapore imports goods — mainly computer equipment and electronic components — worth more than £650 million each year which Cocom, the Coordinating Committee for Multinational Export Controls, classifies as sensitive. It is one of several non-communist countries blacklisted by America for offering inadequate protection to US-made advanced technology goods.

**Computerland micro**  
The retail store chain Computerland has introduced its first private label personal computer system, saying it is compatible with IBM's PC and AT at a cost about 20 per cent less. It has used Tri-Gem, a South Korean computer manufacturer, to make the BC series, which is expected to be available in large quantities in the US by mid-July at a price of £1,000 for the basic version and £2,000 for its AT compatible. Computerland, with more than 800 stores worldwide in 24 countries, needs to make its product stand out from other clones by using its company name to allay customer's concerns about the quality of the machines.

**Star Wars contracts**  
British companies are set to win the lion's share of the European contracts for President Reagan's "Star Wars" programme, a senior Pentagon official said last week. But initial contracts will be worth only £5.5 million, which will be Disappearing Britain. The Ministry of Defence was reported earlier this month to be hoping to secure contracts worth £25 million. The Pentagon man, speaking at the US Embassy in London on condition he was not named, added that ultimately European contracts could be worth about £1.75 billion, about 10 per cent of the total.



This flying insect-like creature from the realms of science fiction could revolutionize battlefield operations. Computer consultancy Scicon have named their invention Searfly — an unmanned observation and attack robot air vehicle. Although only a model at present, it would be packed with highly-advanced electronics and computer systems and could, says the company, become a reality by the year 2010. It sees the futuristic robot, which was on display at an Army equipment exhibition last weekend, as being able to locate, identify and even attack enemy targets without risking loss of personnel, and operate independent of any ground controllers. The Searfly would fly at 90 miles per hour, have a range of 100 miles and cost about £50,000.

## COMPUTER BRIEFING

### Air traffic control hitch

New computers crucial to air safety in America in the 21st century have unwisely been chosen on the basis of tests resembling only 1970s levels of air traffic, according to investigators from the general accounting office of the US Congress. They have produced a report urging the American Federal Aviation Administration not to select a computer manufacturer until more realistic tests based on 1990's traffic projections have been run. There was little evidence, said the report, that systems from either the winner of the £8 billion contract, IBM, or the loser, Sperry, "will perform as needed". The computers will be installed in 20 air traffic centres that handle 15,000 flights per day.

### High-margin policy

IBM is expecting flat financial results for the rest of 1986, says the chairman, John Akers. "If business doesn't pick up in the United States, I think IBM will have difficulty showing earnings growth. The US has been dicy and remains dicy," he said last week. Regarding the company's ability to compete with the growing numbers of IBM-compatible personal computers, Akers said the company would continue to differentiate its personal computer line through products and service. But he warned that if parts of the computer industry become "increasingly commodity like" — where price becomes the main factor — "you will probably see the IBM company departing from those parts. We are in the business of high margin sales."

### Disc directory for Japan

The four thick volumes of Tokyo yellow pages issued by Nippon Telegraph and Telephone (NTT) will be put on a single compact disc going on sale next year. It will mean that more than one million company references will be available from a central memory within seconds to users of personal computers. The disc, developed with Sony and Philips, is similar to an audio disc introduced in 1982, and the new facility makes use of compact disc read only memory (cd-rom) which uses the huge data storage capacity available with laser scanning technology.

## COMPUTER APPOINTMENTS

### THE CHOICE FOR COMPUTER PROFESSIONALS

SYSTEM 26 RETRAIN 4/5/8 LONDON £14 - £18k

PROGRAMMERS AND ANALYST/PROGRAMMERS

Summary: A leading computer systems consultancy based in Central London and seeking to develop IBM Systems 360/50 systems.  
Position: Several PROGRAMMERS AND ANALYST/PROGRAMMERS required to play an active part in developing and maintaining major projects from initial specification through to implementation. Applications are of commercial, insurance and financial nature.  
Experience: 2 years plus experience on IBM 360/50 equipment. Some graduates who will have the opportunity to be retrained into IBM 360/50. Programmers must have minimum 18 months of RPL or RPL and Analyst/Programmers with at least 12 months' experience in a computer environment.  
Salary: £14,000 - £18,000 per annum depending on experience.  
Benefits: UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY of gaining further experience and moving towards project leading or consultancy role. Preference will be given to candidates looking for a career move and greater challenge. Work will be in-house and on client sites. Some travel will be required.  
REF TM 1588

Stop Press: THREE ANALYST/PROGRAMMERS WITH GOOD MANAGERIAL SKILLS, needed urgently with 18 months or more experience. Also a good IBM 360/50 Systems Engineer.  
SUSSEX £16k REF TM 1640

PROGRAMMERS MIDDLESEX To £12k + Car

Summary: Multi-million pound IBM microcomputer specialists, rapidly expanding throughout the South West of England, and establishing a firm presence in the field, software support and professional services staff.  
Position: Programmers are required to work in teams, reporting to Project Leaders on IBM systems, with a wide variety of applications. The work will be in-house and on client sites. Some travel will be required.  
Experience: Graduates of 3 years computer programming experience, preferably with a knowledge of Pascal, Fortran, Basic or PL/1. Programmers will be retrained. Knowledge of Office 2, Lotus 1-2-3, and Symphony would be ideal.  
Benefits: An excellent opportunity to progress within this fast-moving company, with benefits including company car.  
REF TS 1551

SYSTEMS ANALYSTS CITY To £15,000 + RELOCATION

Summary: International major IBM user based in the City of London seeking the latest technology for both local and international operations.  
Position: Systems Analysts to be responsible for the development of on-line and database systems - commercial, accounting and financial. Professionals and consultants capable also in developing and testing systems successfully in a business environment.  
Experience: Graduates of 3 years computer programming experience, preferably with a knowledge of Pascal, Fortran, Basic or PL/1. Programmers will be retrained. Knowledge of Office 2, Lotus 1-2-3, and Symphony would be ideal.  
Benefits: An excellent opportunity to progress within this fast-moving company, with benefits including company car.  
REF TS 1551

DEC & ICL PROGRAMMERS/SHI PROGRAMMERS G LONDON £10-15.5k

Summary: One of the largest and most successful computer services companies dealing with all hardware, software and commercial applications areas, staffed with computer and dynamic professionals. Position: Programmers and Senior Programmers to work on major projects playing an integral part in a small team working from inception to implementation. Excellent benefits will be provided in accordance with the company's policy.  
Experience: Programmer - 18 months - 2 years (total experience), based on either ICL, DEC or ICL/SHI from a commercial or financial background. Senior Programmers 3 years plus with team leadership experience and good communication skills.  
Benefits: This is a great opportunity to join one of the most successful computer services companies in the country. The company offers a competitive salary, excellent benefits package, including a company car, pension, health insurance, etc.  
REF TS 1581

AMBITIOUS VAX ANALYST/PROGRAMMERS CITY To 14k

Summary: The dynamic company specialises in the area of client portfolio management. Highly respected and established worldwide, its turnover exceeded £30 million last year.  
Position: Two ambitious Analyst/Programmers are required to work in a fast-moving financial environment. They will be responsible for the development and implementation of VAX systems. Applications are of commercial, insurance and financial nature.  
Experience: Graduates of 3 years computer programming experience, preferably with a knowledge of Pascal, Fortran, Basic or PL/1. Programmers will be retrained. Knowledge of Office 2, Lotus 1-2-3, and Symphony would be ideal.  
Benefits: An excellent opportunity to progress within this fast-moving company, with benefits including company car.  
REF TM 1588

SALES CONSULTANCY/TURKNEY CITY OTE £25,000 plus BASE To £18k CHOICE OF CAR

Summary: A major consultancy/systems house involved in numerous prestigious projects, many at the forefront of computer technology. Established for more than 20 years the company has maintained an enviable profitability and reputation record.  
Position: Volume of business has created new opportunities to join the well-established City office. One Sales Executive is required to sell a specialised financial services to Banks and Exchange Dealers, the other to sell consultancy, business projects etc. to a wide range of City institutions.  
Experience: Successful candidates will have a good track record in high value software sales, or perhaps account management with a manufacturer. They will be of good educational standard, well-presented, and confident in the City environment.  
Benefits: This is a highly competitive and exciting environment in the UK and offers an excellent career path as well as top level remuneration and company benefits. Future progression can move into a number of different areas and locations. A realistic guarantee can also be negotiated.  
REF TA 1560

GOVERNMENT SALES NETWORK SYSTEMS BERNES BASE £24,000 OTE £15,000 CAVALLER SHI

Summary: Renowned for its proven and reliable networking system, fully compatible with most microcomputers and its own range of workstations and PCs. This reputable British manufacturer has an enviable profitability and reputation record.  
Position: The level will be to sell the above networking system into Central Government accounts (top, middle, and bottom end) throughout the UK.  
Experience: Graduates of 3 years computer programming experience, preferably with a knowledge of Pascal, Fortran, Basic or PL/1. Programmers will be retrained. Knowledge of Office 2, Lotus 1-2-3, and Symphony would be ideal.  
Benefits: An excellent opportunity to progress within this fast-moving company, with benefits including company car.  
REF TS 1551

AREA MANAGERS DEALER SALES LONDON £12k + GUARANTEE £25k + OTE £30k + AVERAGE EARNINGS

Summary: This well established manufacturer and OEM is part of a multi-million pound Corporation. Expansion into a private new area has created the following requirements.  
Position: Selling personal computers and a wide range of software to dealers in London, the successful candidates will have the potential to quickly develop and progress within the company.  
Experience: Graduates of 3 years computer programming experience, preferably with a knowledge of Pascal, Fortran, Basic or PL/1. Programmers will be retrained. Knowledge of Office 2, Lotus 1-2-3, and Symphony would be ideal.  
Benefits: This is a great opportunity to join one of the most successful computer services companies in the country. The company offers a competitive salary, excellent benefits package, including a company car, pension, health insurance, etc.  
REF TS 1581

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## COMPUTER HORIZONS/2

## Our Concorde flight winners



Winners of the Times/DEC competition pictured at the race airfield: they are (from left to right) Peter Matthews, Jennifer McParland, Sandra Coventry, Claire Robertson, Malcolm Cutting and Alastair Macmillan

Jennifer McParland, a computing assistant from Leicester, is the overall winner in our six week series of competitions linked to the DEC Schneider Air Race. She wins the first prize of a weekend for two in New York with return flights on Concorde.

Mrs McParland, who works in the computer centre at Leicester Polytechnic, says her entry was a joint family effort. Her son Stephen helped with the competition solutions to the questions on aviation and her daughter Penny used the school library to research some of the questions on computing.

Her winning tie-breaker was "The advent of computer-aided design and modern technology have made speed trials obsolete".

All of the six weekly winners and their partners were at last weekend's air race at the Isle of Wight as guests of Digital Equipment and attended a gala dinner on Saturday night where the winner of the first prize was announced.

The other winning competitors Alastair Macmillan, a London public relations director; Claire Robertson, a dental surgeon from Muswell Hill in London; Malcolm Cutting, a

self-employed London computer consultant; Peter Matthews, an ex-Spitfire pilot and deputy head of the Central School of Art and Design and Sandra Coventry, a systems support manager from Surbiton, Surrey received their prizes of Concorde Champagne trips for two. They are hoping to take the trip all together in November.

During the weekend the winners were also able to take flights with some of the air race competitors during practice flights on Saturday.

The winners also watched the air race from a cruise ship

moored off Ryde Pier where a Topsy Nipper piloted by Ron Mitcham crossed the finishing line first.

For our final weekly winner, Sandra Coventry it was her first entry in any competition. She joined Lloyds Bank in London from school and is now working in the management services division of the finance controllers' department.

Her winning tie-breaker was "Standards which aid understanding and co-operation are essential for the continuing success of computer technology."

## A short sharp shock for the software brigade

The British computer software industry, whose performance has been applauded by many an industry minister in the past and deemed to be an example of enterprise worthy of emulation, came under fire last week. The industry was not performing sufficiently well to obtain its proper market share in the face of fierce competition from the Japanese and the Americans and is unable to prevent foreign software from making a substantial impact on the UK market.

The harsh message was contained in a report by the Advisory Council for Applied Research and Development (ACARD). The study, prepared for the Government through the Cabinet Office, shattered many illusions which the computer industry had been comfortably nourishing for more than a decade. The mainstay of that misconception being that the British are the best software engineers in the world and that foreigners, particularly the Japanese, have not the cultural background nor imagination to compete.

The British software industry is in desperate trouble. A creeping annual trade deficit of £200 million three years ago is now rising in such proportions that it will reach £2,000 million by the end of the decade unless drastic measures are taken.

ACARD attempted in its study to suggest how that could best be achieved but it is advising a government whose track record in properly promoting IT is poor. It exposed the sad British performance in stark detail. The world software market is large, state the Cabinet Office advisors. That market is estimated to be worth US\$ 40,000

## THE WEEK

By Bill Johnstone  
Technology Correspondent

million with the UK representing 5 per cent of the total.

But Britain is not holding its own, and has only 2-3 per cent of the world market. That share is largely made up of half of the UK market and only 0.5 per cent from the rest of the world. The world market is growing at 30 per cent a year, claims ACARD, indicating that the UK will fall even further behind the US and Japan.

The study concludes "UK software companies are growing at around 20 per cent per annum which is below the world rate of 30-40 per cent. Thus the balance of payments deficit is going to increase if UK industry generally takes up IT at the rate required to remain competitive in world markets. This will drive the balance of payments deficit for software (all IT) from £200 million (£928 million) in 1983 to £2,000 million (£9,000m in all IT) in the early 1990's".

Companies and the government cannot use ignorance as an excuse for poor performance. Prior to and during IT

Year 1982 British businesses were inundated with information on every aspect of IT, both hardware and software. They were left in no doubt from the mountains of publicity material that IT would touch every business in the UK, from manufacturing to service industries. If the British were to survive at home and abroad in the face of competition from the US and the Pacific Basin, they must modernize, computerize and automate, claimed the publicity.

The source of that information ironically was the Government. The industrial ministers who had organised the IT Year informed us at the year-end that the British were now far more aware of the benefits of IT than ever before. It seems strange that ACARD, four years later, think that neither government nor companies have a proper knowledge or appreciation of the value of software.

The ACARD argument cannot be challenged but it is a creed which has been preached in the last four years by DTI advisors to government, ITAP (Information Technology Advisory Panel), the House of Lords, the TUC, government backbenchers and both opposition parties in the House of Commons. Their reports are piled high in the DTI and the Department of Education and Science and still we have the IT trade deficit and skills shortages. All the reports have been published and still British industry/business is sluggish in its response.

The principal plank of the ACARD strategy is to form an expert body to be called the Software Technology and Applications Review Team of Industry and Government (STARTING). The new group's main function is to "Hold an annual, large scale, formal review meeting to consider a performance report of software users, suppliers and suppliers".

The last thing the industry needs is another review or another review body. It's time to bite the bullet with a little help from an imaginative government.

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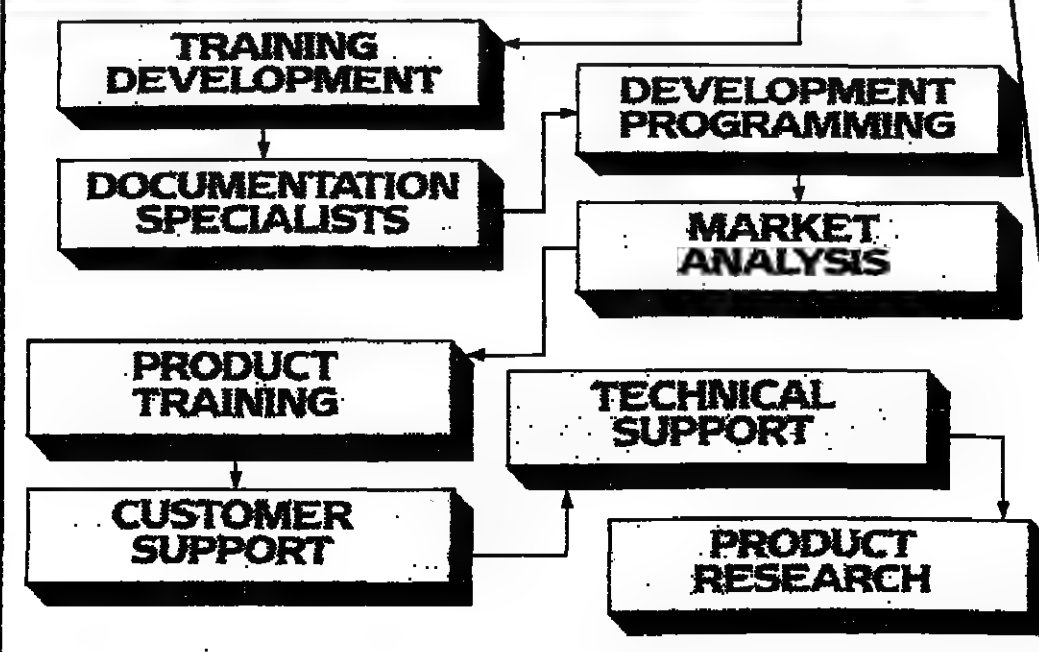
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Application form and further details from Clerk of the Committee (Personnel Section), County Hall, Chelmsford CM1 1LX. Tel: Chelmsford (0245) 267222 Ext. 2017. Closing date 11 July 1986.

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# LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

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# Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear and Peter Davale

## BBC 1

- 6.00** Ceefax AM. Breakfast Time with Selina Scott and Guy Michelmore. Weather at 6.55, 7.25, 7.55, 8.25 and 8.55; regional news, weather and traffic at 8.57, 9.27, 9.57 and 10.27; national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; World Cup and Wimbledon reports at 7.15 and 8.15; and a review of the morning newspapers at 8.57. Plus, phone-in Advice Lines; gardening advice from Alan Titchmarsh; and a recipe from Lynn Christian.
- 9.20** The Goodie Kitchen. Shirley Goodie prepares another recipe for Ceefax. (R) 9.35 Ceefax 10.30 Play School. 10.50 Ceefax. News After Noon with Richard and Mary. Includes news headlines with subtitles 1.25 Regional news and weather. 1.30 Gemenhouse. (R)
- 1.45** Wimbledon 86. Introduced by Steve Rider. Martina Navratilova begins the defence of her Ladies' Singles crown against the Australian, G. Tingwell, on the Centre Court. 4.12 Regional news.
- 4.15** Laurel and Hardy. In a cartoon, Riverboat Detectives. 4.20 Dastardly and Muttley. Cartoon series. (R) 4.25 Wacky Races. (R) 4.35 Think of a Number. Cartoon. 4.40 The Sullivans. Drama serial about an Australian family during the Forties.
- 5.00** John Craven's Newsround. 5.10 We Are the Champions. Inter-school field and pool events competition, presented by Ron Pickering from Bishopsgate Sports Centre, Strathfield District. The schools taking part in this fourth year are Royal High School, Edinburgh, Large Academy and Bishopsgate High School.
- 5.35** World Cup Report. Introduced by Bob Wilson and Emlyn Hughes. A preview of tomorrow's semi-final matches.
- 6.00** News with Sue Lawley and Andrew Wake. Weather.
- 6.35** London Live. Terry in a bit of a pickle when, raked by a junior member of his firm's board that he is a satirical osh, he lets it known that he, too, has one, and is immediately volunteered to provide viewing facilities for a foreign visitor. (R)
- 7.30** Eastenders. Angie allows Wicky and his mates to audition for their band in the Queen Vic. Those that attend turn out to be a mixed bunch, including an ageing rock n' roller, Johnny Easthouse (played by G.B. Zoot Money).
- 8.00** International Boxing from Caesar's Palace. A repeat of the bout shown live early this morning between the Featherweight Champion of the World, Barry McGuigan, and Steve Cruz. The commentator is Harry Carpenter.
- 8.50** Points of View. Barry Took takes another dip into the BBC's postbag.
- 9.00** News with John Humphrys and John Humphrys.
- 9.30** 'Allie' Allie. Rene is again lapped by Fairfax's and Carstairs's failure to escape, and by his wife's insistence on playing the role of a rich widow. (R)
- 10.00** Miami Vice. Crockett and Tubo join forces with an old Vietnam War buddy, who seeks time to help him track down a drugs trafficker known as The General. Starring Don Johnson and Philip Michael Thomas. (Ceefax)
- 10.50** Wimbledon 86. Desmond Lynam introduces the action of the second day.
- 11.50** Weather.

## TV-AM

- 6.15** Good Morning Britain. Presented by Nigel Owen and Jayne Irving. News with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; financial news at 6.35; sport at 6.40, 7.40 and 8.40; exercises at 6.55; cartoon at 7.25; pop video at 7.50; Jeni Barnett's postbag at 8.35; Joyce Ditzler on the Minnesota method of treating drug addiction at 8.03; and comment on a cure for a child with arthritis at 9.12.

## ITV LONDON

- 9.25** Thames News headlines followed by *Beneath the Sea*, a damselfish defends its coral reef home against intruders. 9.55 The Suddlers. A documentary about saddle-making. 10.30 Alfred G. Greenberg Memorial High School. The problems that can face a girl attending a High School in the United States. 11.25 Home Cookery Club. Barbecued Fish Kebabs. (R)
- 11.30** About Britain. The first of four programmes tracing the history of the Channel Islands. 12.00 Cuckleshell Bay. Seaside adventures of the Cuckles twins. For the very young. 12.10 Rainbow. Learning made fun with puppets. (R) 12.30 The Sullivans. Drama serial about an Australian family during the Forties.
- 1.00** News at One with Leonard Parker. 1.20 Thames news. 1.30 Tucker's Witch. The first of a new series about a young husband and wife private detective team. Starring Catherine Hicks and Tim Matheson.
- 2.30** Family Matters. Seventeen-year-old Tommy Walsh talks about his criminal record, followed by interviews with his parents. 3.00 Mouthtrap. Game show presented by Don Mackean. 3.25 Thames news. 3.30 The Young Doctors. Medical drama serial set in a large Australian city hospital.
- 4.00** Cuckleshell Bay. A repeat of the programme shown at noon. 4.10 The Moomins. Narrated by Richard Murdoch. (R) 4.20 Sooty. Presented by Matthew Corbett. 4.35 Woody Woodpecker. Cartoon. 4.45 Splash. Magazine programme for young people.
- 5.15** Star Choice. Astrology game presented by Keith Boyle, Eve Pollard and Roger de Courcy.
- 6.45** News with Carol Barnes. 6.00 Thames news. 6.25 Reporting London. Lindsay Charlton investigates a controversial Danish slitting pill; and there is a look at the high pressure life on the country's top Performing Arts degrees.
- 7.00** Emmerdale Farm. Amos Brearly offers to help Seth when he is in trouble with his wife.
- 7.30** Duty Free. Comedy series about two couples on holiday in Spain. (R) (Oracle)
- 8.00** You've Gotta Have Heart. Entertaining advice on how to avoid heart trouble, presented by Mimam Stoppard.
- 9.00** Film: Little Gloria... Happy at Last (1982) The second and final part of the made-for-television biography of the life of the young Gloria Vanderbilt. Directed by Veris Hussain. (continues after the news)
- 10.00** News at Ten with Martin Lewis and Pamela Armstrong.
- 10.30** Film: Little Gloria... Happy at Last continued. Cher and Caesar's Palace. Cher's concert at Las Vegas.
- 11.20** Newsnight. The latest national and international news, including extended coverage of one of the main stories of the day. Presented by Peter Snow. Donal MacCormick and Olivia O'Leary.
- 11.45** Weather.
- 11.50** Open University: Knotley Fields. My Door is Always Open. Ends at 12.20.



Ruth Hussey, Ray Milland: The Uninvited, Channel 4, 9pm

## BBC 2

- 6.55** Open University: Science - Rats and Super Rats. 7.20 Ceefax. 7.30 Wimbledon 86 introduced by Steve Rider. Ladies' Singles matches from the Centre and Number One courts with reports from the outside courts and interviews with the principals. The commentators are Dan Maskell, John Barrett, Gerald Williams, Mark Cox, Bill Threlfall, Ann Jones and Virginia Wade. 8.00 Wildlife Test. Mark Ellen is in Greenwich Village to meet the new folk singing sensation, Suzanne Vega. Richard James talks to Steve Winwood; in the studio, Andy Kershaw introduces Paul Blake and the Bloodstone Posse. Let's Active. At the Town and Country Club, the House Martins are in concert.
- 9.00** The Mindfield (1977) starring Nick Tate and John Waters. This thriller, continuing the season of films from Australia, conceived by Lesley Judd, who takes up an appointment in a small town and is disturbed to discover that his predecessor disappeared without trace, and even more unnerved by the townspeople's total apathy to the mystery. He decides to make some investigations himself and he finds the path leading to a very private family living at Summerfield Farm. Directed by Ken Hamman.
- 10.35** The Birdville Races. A special day in the life of a remote Australian outback town where the town's 300 inhabitants are swelled by 3,000 visitors for the annual races. (R)
- 11.00** Newsnight. The latest national and international news, including extended coverage of one of the main stories of the day. Presented by Peter Snow. Donal MacCormick and Olivia O'Leary.
- 11.45** Weather.
- 11.50** Open University: Knotley Fields. My Door is Always Open. Ends at 12.20.

●Sport and a spooky old film apart, it's yet another humdrum day on television. Another of those days when the radio set is sitting there practically pleading to be switched on so that it can prove to you, in case it might have missed your notice, that the radio bulletins and the weather forecast are not the staples of radio and that there is a whole new world out there waiting to be admitted to your ears if only you are prepared to take the trouble to listen.

Sportwise on TV, there is a new series beginning the defence of her title in **WIMBLEDON 86** (BBC1, 1.45 and 10.50pm; and BBC2, 1.35pm and 10.45pm) which is a 1.00am this morning to watch the BBC1 transmission of the

## CHANNEL 4

- 2.15** Their Lordships' House. A repeat of last night's highlights of the day's proceedings in the House of Lords.
- 2.30** Ulster Landscapes. This ninth programme in the series on the peaceful side of Ulster life examines the changes that have taken place in Belfast's townscapes over the past three decades. (R)
- 3.00** Film: Eyes in the Night (1942) starring Edward Arnold as a blind detective who discovers a Nazi plot to murder the former lover of a scientist. Directed by Fred Zinnemann.
- 4.30** Dances Days. Weekday dance series. A Brazilian woman trying to re-adjust to Rio de Janeiro society after being released from prison after serving an 11 year sentence.
- 5.00** Bewitched. Tabitha loses her toy flying saucer and dotty Aunt Clara tries to make it materialise only to bring a real special to complete with a crew of two.
- 5.30** Pets in Particular. The first in a new series, conceived by Lesley Judd. Today's subjects include a look at Crufts and the Kennel Club; the question of whether or not pets should be vegetarians; and a look at the world of the pet.
- 6.00** The Vanishing Tribes of Africa. The third and final programme of the series. The way of life of the Karangong before they were decimated during Idi Amin's rule. (R)
- 7.00** Channel 4 News with Peter Sissons and Alastair Stewart introduces a report on the new general managers in the re-shaped National Health Service.
- 7.50** Comment from Derrick Mackay, with the help of BBC Local Radio stations, looks at a subject of current interest.
- 8.00** Brookside. Sheila has an intimate conversation with Mo and discovers who sent her the threatening letter, and Ruth seems to have a good reason to prevent her father marrying Heather.
- 8.30** Moneyspinner. Presented by Alison Mitchell from the City Hall. Bill, among the subjects discussed is the setting up of your own business. With Douglas Moffitt. Paul Soper and Sally Hawkins.
- 9.00** Film: The Uninvited (1944) starring Ray Milland and Ruth Hussey. A thriller about a brother and sister who buy a Georgian house on the English coast. When they move in their dog refuses to climb the stairs - the first of a series of mysterious occurrences. Directed by Lewis Allen (see Choice).
- 10.50** The Unrepeatable Who Dares Wins... Highlights from the successful last-night alternative comedy series.
- 11.20** Archie Bunker's Place. Murray's new love is driving Barry round the bend.
- 11.50** Their Lordships' House. Highlights from the day's proceedings in the House of Lords. Ends at 12.50.

## CHOICE

McDougal's fight from Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas, there is another chance to see it tonight (BBC1, 8.00). The spooky tale I mentioned at the start is Lewis Allen's THE UNINVITED (Channel 4, 9.00pm). Memory might play me false, but I could practically swear that I was reluctant to go up the stairs to bed on the night I saw it back in 1943. In case I might have missed your notice, that the radio bulletins and the weather forecast are not the staples of radio and that there is a whole new world out there waiting to be admitted to your ears if only you are prepared to take the trouble to listen.

## Radio 4

- On long wave, VHF variations at 5.55. Shipping. 6.00 News Briefing. 6.30 Shipping. 6.55 News. 7.00 News. 7.15 News. 7.30 News. 7.45 News. 7.55 News. 8.00 News. 8.15 News. 8.30 News. 8.45 News. 8.55 News. 9.00 News. 9.15 News. 9.30 News. 9.45 News. 9.55 News. 10.00 News. 10.15 News. 10.30 News. 10.45 News. 10.55 News. 11.00 News. 11.15 News. 11.30 News. 11.45 News. 11.55 News. 12.00 News. 12.15 News. 12.30 News. 12.45 News. 12.55 News. 1.00 News. 1.15 News. 1.30 News. 1.45 News. 1.55 News. 2.00 News. 2.15 News. 2.30 News. 2.45 News. 2.55 News. 3.00 News. 3.15 News. 3.30 News. 3.45 News. 3.55 News. 4.00 News. 4.15 News. 4.30 News. 4.45 News. 4.55 News. 5.00 News. 5.15 News. 5.30 News. 5.45 News. 5.55 News. 6.00 News. 6.15 News. 6.30 News. 6.45 News. 6.55 News. 7.00 News. 7.15 News. 7.30 News. 7.45 News. 7.55 News. 8.00 News. 8.15 News. 8.30 News. 8.45 News. 8.55 News. 9.00 News. 9.15 News. 9.30 News. 9.45 News. 9.55 News. 10.00 News. 10.15 News. 10.30 News. 10.45 News. 10.55 News. 11.00 News. 11.15 News. 11.30 News. 11.45 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